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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Inside

Election violence went under radar

Officials: Despite early reports, Afghan insurgents active

By JOSH SMITH and HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL — Contrary to initial reports, Afghanistan saw unusually high levels of violence during Saturday's presidential vote, according to analysts and military officials, putting a dent in the prevailing narrative of a largely peaceful election.

"It was one of the most violent days in Afghanistan," said U.S. Brig. Gen. Dave Haight, who works with Afghan forces in some of the most violent areas of the

country's east. "It was not lost on the enemy that the election was a pivotal event."

On election day, officials and observers hailed what seemed to be a low level of violence, with no attacks on major urban centers and only a scant number reported from elsewhere.

But as the days have ticked by and more information has become available from remote areas, a different picture has emerged.

SEE ELECTION ON PAGE 2



JOSH SMITH/Stars and Stripes

An Afghan police officer pats down a man preparing to vote in Kabul on April 5.

NATION

Student armed with knives injures 20 at Pittsburgh-area school

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FORT HOOD SHOOTING

Troops overseas say strict gun laws help them feel safer on base

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MILITARY

Loss of benefits keeps military spouses from exposing misconduct

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COLLEGE HOOPS

UConn women land 9th NCAA title in win over Notre Dame

Back page



MICHEL DU CILLE/AP

Christopher Lloyd, a former Army sergeant, earns \$8 per hour cleaning cars at an auto dealership in Wichita Falls, Texas.

By GREG JAFFE
The Washington Post

A two-tour Army veteran of the Afghanistan War pulled on a pair of old combat boots and headed off to his \$8-an-hour job washing cars at a Ford dealership in Wichita Falls, Texas. "My military background don't mean nothing," he said. "I am just another guy with a GED."

An unemployed Iraq veteran in San Antonio woke up late, as he always did these days, and searched the online job boards for new listings. "Same garbage as usual," he said.

A 46-year-old former soldier, out of work for seven months, was so nervous that he was shaking as he waited in line

WANTED: HEROES

Veterans' unemployment defies simple answers

at a veterans job fair in Louisville, Ky. "It seems like I second-guess myself whenever I talk," he said. Also at the fair was a man who ran one of the biggest veterans employment programs in the country, with thousands of jobs to fill.

The four are part of a postwar economy that is unlike any in American history for veterans seeking work. Unemployment among veterans has been called a "black eye on our society" by the head of a major veterans group. "A moral obligation" is how President Barack Obama has referred to it. "A national disgrace," a prominent Republican senator has said. The truth, though, is more complicated.

SEE UNEMPLOYMENT ON PAGE 3

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When they had their zippers unzipped, they weren't thinking of their families."

— Kris Johnson, who risked losing military benefits for herself and her family when she turned in her husband, Col. James H. Johnson III, the former commander of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, who was eventually dismissed from the military for misconduct

See story on Page 7

MIDEAST

Election: Effect of violence on voting is not yet known

FROM FRONT PAGE

Analysts say it's still too early to say what effect the violence had on voting, particularly outside Afghanisthan's cities.

"While it's accurate to say that the Taliban did not launch spectacular attacks in urban centers, as some analysts feared, the country as a whole remained exceptionally violent," said Graeme Smith, the International Crisis Group's senior analyst in Afghanistan. "Incident data from election day is still trickling in from the districts, but levels of violence appear higher than during previous elections."

Security forces initially reported about 160 attacks across the country on election day, while the Taliban claimed to have launched more than 1,000 strikes. More recently, the Defense Ministry has raised its original estimate of the number of attacks aimed at disrupting Saturday's election to 690, and said soldiers had defused 200 bombs.

On Wednesday, Independent Election Commission Director Mohammad Yousuf Nuristani said there had been roughly 300 attacks aimed at election sites on Saturday, but downplayed the effect it had on the vote. "Mostly, it was just to scare people away from voting," he said. "Despite these threats, people came out to vote."

Despite the numerous attacks, Afghan Army Maj. Gen. Muhammad Yafтали told reporters, who were flown from Kabul to Gardez, in southeastern Paktia province, that the election was a success because his forces were able to protect polling stations and prevent mass casualties. He leads the army's 203rd Corps, as well as the border police and other Afghan national security forces in seven provinces in southeast Afghanistan, including some of the most violent like Wardak and Khost.

On election day, Yafтали said, his forces faced 347 attacks by Taliban and other insurgents, around 10 times the average of 30 to 40 incidents per day. The attacks ranged from mortar and rocket fire to direct firefights.

Despite the high number of attacks, Yafтали said, only two civilians and two ANSF were killed, with another 34 people injured in the seven provinces where some 5 million Afghans live. None of the provinces affected election sites, he said. Yafталi claimed the Afghan forces in his area killed 129 militants on election day and 56 more the following day. That also was higher than usual, according to Afghan and International Security Assistance Force officials.

Yafталi's post-election bravado is not uncommon among Afghan security forces, who saw themselves as key to preventing the wave of attacks from disrupting the election.

"If any militants want to come across the border [from Pakistan], I will be happy because we will send them to paradise," he said.

For many Afghans caught in between the



JOSH SMITH/Stars and Stripes

Afghan Army Maj. Gen. Muhammad Yafталi, right, and U.S. Brig. Gen. Dave Haight discuss Afghan National Security Forces' reaction to election day violence. Yafталi, whose ANA 203rd Corps covers seven provinces in southeastern Afghanistan, said his forces responded to hundreds of attacks.

government and the Taliban, the military's success at securing polling sites didn't give them enough confidence that the Taliban wouldn't follow through on their threats to punish voters.

A resident of the volatile Kunar province, who asked to be identified only as Awalkhan for his own security, told Stars and Stripes before the election the Taliban had been distributing letters at night warning residents not to vote. When contacted on Wednesday, Awalkhan said he and his family decided it was too much of a risk to try to vote.

"We heard the sound of rockets all day on election day," he said.

Awalkhan's fears underscore the challenge for the Afghan security forces and their international advisers as the Taliban insurgency retains influence in many areas. Haight, commander of the Training, Advise and Assist Command-Southeast for the NATO-led force, acknowledged that it is easier to defend against attacks that are expected, such as during national events like the election. It is much harder to sustain that level of defense.

That view was echoed by Haji Hazrat Janan, head of the provincial council in Wardak province. Turnout was low at many polling stations in the province, and there were many reports of election day violence, closed polling stations and possible fraud.

Afghan troops performed much better than during past elections, Janan told Stars

and Stripes, but enduring security remains elusive.

"I think the Afghan security forces were active on election day and they played a bigger role than in the past," he said. "But for places like Wardak, which are violent, they need to increase their number and focus more."

Despite the large number of attacks, violence levels were still much lower than many feared, said Aziz Rafiqe, director of the domestic election monitoring group, Afghan Civil Society Forum.

"The amount we were expecting was not what the Taliban carried out," he said. "We were expecting every single (polling) site to be exposed to attack."

What is still unclear is whether the lack of major election day attacks in Afghanistan's largest cities was a failure by the Taliban to carry out their stated plans or if the insurgent group decided to wait for the Afghan National Security Forces to lower their posture.

Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Gen. Zahir Azimi said that despite the passage of election day, Afghan troops will remain deployed throughout the country until the vote count is finished and through a second round of voting, it that proves necessary. "We are still at the top security alert level," he said.

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5. Members of Congress rarely hiring veterans, survey says

COMING SOON

Fitness

Parkour makes leap to the gym



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MILITARY

Unemployment: Matching veterans, employers proves a difficult task

FROM FRONT PAGE

Veterans who served in the post-Sept. 11 era have a higher overall unemployment rate than their civilian peers — but it was only about 2 percentage points higher in 2013, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. They are more likely to be employed in full-time jobs and on average earn more than peers who didn't serve. They report about the same levels of financial stress as Americans overall, according to a new survey by The Washington Post and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

And yet what is steering the national push to hire Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans isn't just statistics. It's also an emotional need on the part of many Americans to connect with the 1 percent of the population that volunteered to serve during the longest stretch of war in American history.

This impulse has led corporate America to make some massive promises. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Hiring Our Heroes program has collected pledges from businesses to hire 409,000 veterans on its way to a goal of 500,000. Wal-Mart has said it plans to hire 100,000 vets. Home Depot wants to take on 55,000; McDonald's 100,000; Starbucks, 10,000 more.

"These young men and women who are coming home from multiple deployments are not coming home to a parade," Howard Schultz, the chief executive of Starbucks, said in a recent teleconference. "It's not something coming home to an American public that really doesn't understand, and never embraced, what these people have done."

Add up all the pledges, and they total more than 1 million jobs for a post-9/11 unemployed post-Sept. 11-era veterans that is estimated most months by the Bureau of Labor Statistics at 210,000.

The math is overwhelming. There are now about five pledged jobs for every unemployed servicemember who fought in Iraq or Afghanistan.

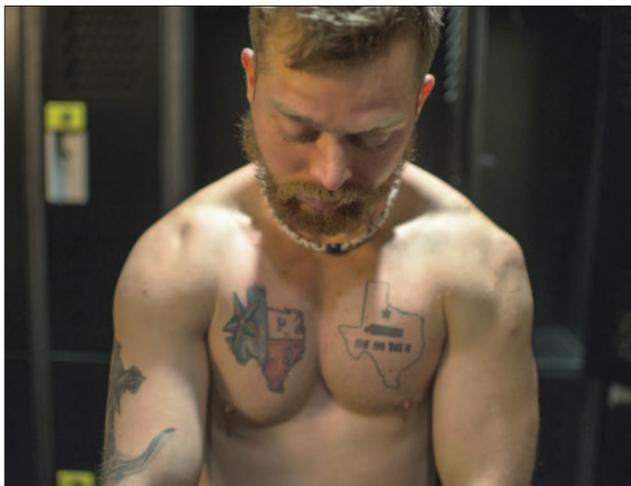
It also raises some questions: If there really are more than 1 million jobs out there, why isn't every Iraq and Afghanistan War veteran employed? Is there a problem with what the companies are doing? Might it have something to do with the veterans themselves?

'This is all I know'

On a recent morning in Wichita Falls, Christopher Lloyd wrestled with his own version of these questions, shaped by his frustrating five-month job search and his mounting debts. If so many people wanted to help veterans like him, why was he stuck washing cars for \$8 an hour?

Lloyd had come home from his second tour of Afghanistan to a divorce, a drinking problem and trouble controlling his anger. An Army psychiatrist diagnosed him with post-traumatic stress disorder. "It started there," Lloyd said of the path that had led him to the Ford dealership. "And it ended here."

At the moment, "here" was scrubbing the interior of a trade-in that was headed for the dealership's used car lot. An old "Support



MICHEL DU CILLE/AP

Christopher Lloyd, a former Army sergeant, works out at a gym in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Our Troops" magnet had been stuck on a metal door near the spot where Lloyd dumped the dirty mop water.

A few years ago, when the Pentagon was fighting two wars and budgets were fat, Lloyd might have been allowed to stay in the service until he reached 20 years and could retire with a pension. But by 2013, the Army was already well into its postwar drawdown, cutting spending and shedding soldiers.

Current plans call for the Army to shrink from its wartime peak of about 570,000 active-duty troops to as few as 420,000 by 2019. As the Army culls its force, one worry is that it is pushing out many of its lower-performing soldiers, those who will have the greatest difficulty finding work in the civilian world. "I don't know of any education or training programs to help those veterans," said Phil Carter, who follows veterans issues at the Center for a New American Security.

In addition, many of them have come home from war with bad backs, bad knees, high blood pressure, high levels of anxiety, bad memories and diminished cognition, which can make them that much more unattractive to employers.

Lloyd, 31, is part of that group. He is also right in the middle of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' 25-34 age demographic, which includes more than half of all unemployed post-9/11 veterans. This group of veterans faced a 9.5 percent unemployment rate in 2013. For the 25-34 civilian population, the unemployment

rate last year was 7.3 percent.

Getting a job was the last thing on Lloyd's mind as he prepared to leave the Army. He was more concerned with recovering emotionally from a tough Afghanistan tour.

"This is all I know," he told the Army psychiatrist who recommended that he be medically discharged after a decade of service. Lloyd left the military with a Purple Heart and a 60 percent disability rating for PTSD.

When he finally was ready to start looking for work, the veterans online job boards didn't seem much help. All the jobs listed were in big cities, crowded with strangers, where Lloyd knew he wouldn't feel comfortable. Eventually, an old squad leader who had settled with his wife and children in Wichita Falls invited Lloyd to move there. "We'll help you find work," the squad leader said, in effect becoming Lloyd's employment program.

His support system was a sister who tried to call or text him at least once a day and his mother, who on this morning had promised to wire him \$700 so he would have enough cash to cover his monthly child support payment, his heating bill and his rent. Lloyd's plan for the future was written on the white board in his kitchen: "Stay Positive," he had written. "Put yourself out there. God loves and accepts you. Lonely? Find a date! STICK WITH THESE GOALS. DON'T HESITATE IN LIFE!"

Sometimes Lloyd wished that he had fought harder to stay in the Army. He still kept his hair cut in

the high-and-tight style favored by infantrymen. He still wore his combat boots to work. On this morning, he had strapped a small pistol into a leg holster under his work pants. "If I don't have it, I feel like I am missing something," he said. "All I know is guns. I don't know anything mechanical. I don't know anything about cars. I don't know anything about anything."

Now he was cleaning the interior of a Lincoln SUV. His boss, a 64-year-old with thinning black hair and a salt-and-pepper mustache, was working the back seat, where he offered some career advice. "You find anything, put it in your pocket," the supervisor said. "Don't tell anyone."

In 12 years of cleaning cars, he had found drugs, jewelry and cash. His biggest haul was \$6,000 tucked under the floor mat of an old pickup truck that he was cleaning.

Lloyd ran his hand along the crease in the bucket seats digging for trash and hoping for a little bit of treasure. He pulled out a lipstick-stained cigarette butt. A few seconds later, he unearthed a quarter and then a dime.

"Every little bit adds up," he said. For this hour, at least, his pay was \$8.35.

'I just need a shot'

In another part of Texas, another former soldier was once again waking up late and browsing the online job boards. Some veterans don't know how to search for work, others overestimate the value of their military experience and still

others try only so hard. Depending on the day, Nathan Bianchi, 26, could be any of the three.

Like a lot of young veterans, Bianchi had returned home unsure about what he wanted to do. On this day, he was looking at Wal-Mart's "Welcome Home" veterans website and considering his two choices. There was a "Find a Job" button and a "Find a Career" button. Bianchi, an Iraq veteran and former sergeant, didn't want to stack boxes in a warehouse. He clicked the career button and uploaded a resume that he had written as part of the Army's mandatory career counseling program. It contained spelling errors ("security clearance"), typos ("with an increasing progression of responsibilities") and military jargon ("grid thrust line templates").

"I just need a company that's willing to give me a chance," Bianchi said. "I just need a shot." Off went the resume to Wal-Mart, which didn't have a large enough human resources department to handle all the inquiries it was getting from veterans and so had begun outsourcing the initial resume review to another company.

A career counselor in Chicago called Bianchi the next day, offering some generic resume tips. A few hours later, she emailed him links to 31 "military friendly" companies that had made hiring pledges.

Bianchi scanned the list. A Wells Fargo bank branch near his house in San Antonio was looking for a part-time teller. "It's not something I envisioned for myself, but if they could give me a shot I would take it," Bianchi said. He clicked on the link. "This requisition is no longer open," the website told him. He had already applied to Home Depot, Hewlett-Packard, Verizon and AT&T. Sears was looking for part-time security guards and cashiers, but Bianchi wasn't interested. "These are all bogus minimum wage jobs," he said.

After about 30 minutes he quit, feeling depressed and humiliated. He had been a star athlete in high school and the top wrestler in Texas. In the Army, he had trained to call in artillery strikes, complicated and dangerous work. He was used to staying busy. Now the days were dragging by so slowly. "I feel like a defective person," he told his mother.

Still, he wasn't in a hurry to land a job. Like all troops leaving the military, Bianchi qualified for six months of unemployment benefits. This was another facet of the veteran unemployment problem that was rarely discussed. Unlike many unemployed Americans, new veterans had time to search. The Pentagon was paying out about \$1 billion a year in unemployment compensation. Troops collecting this money were counted as not unemployed.

Bianchi had led a small team of soldiers when he was on active duty. He still served part time in the Texas National Guard, where he helped oversee a 36-soldier platoon. He wanted a job with similar responsibilities in the private sector — a management job, nothing less.

"All I know is guns. I don't know anything mechanical. I don't know anything about cars. I don't know anything about anything."

Christopher Lloyd former Army sergeant

MILITARY

Unemployment: Companies eager to hire vets hit roadblocks

FROM PAGE 3

He wasn't going to settle, even if it meant holding out until his six months of unemployment benefits had been exhausted. Bianchi had a soldier's confidence that everything would work out. "I know what I'm capable of," he said.

Bianchi shut down his computer for the day, played video games and bought a six pack of beer. He still had one month of unemployment benefits to go.

'Lost in the process'

In Louisville, meanwhile, at a veterans job fair, an unemployed former soldier watched as a man in a gray suit, crisp white shirt and silk tie approached. The man was Eric Eversole, just in from Washington, where he oversees the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's veterans employment program.

These days, there are almost too many veterans jobs programs to count: There's Hero2Hired, Hire a Hero, Hire Heroes USA, Operation Hire Our Heroes, Hire America's Heroes. Eversole's Hiring Our Heroes is one of the biggest and most ambitious of them all.

In Washington, Eversole's days were a blur of conference calls with companies, politicians and entertainers wanting to help. On one recent morning, the mayor of Los

Angeles was offering to come to a Hiring Our Heroes fair in April. A big NASCAR team was interested in sending some of its drivers to the group's Charlotte hiring fair in May. The rock bands Kiss and Def Leppard wanted to hire two veterans as roadies for their summer concert tour, starting in June.

Pledges were rolling in, too. Hiring Our Heroes had passed the 400,000 mark in late February and was expecting to hit a half-million by October, two months ahead of schedule. The pledge process was simple and quick. Companies could go to the group's website and in less than a minute fill out a form promising to hire a veteran or a military spouse. The tally was growing almost every day. The most frequent complaint Eversole received from companies was that they couldn't find enough veterans to hire.

On this day at the Louisville job fair, there were 134 of them. The fair was the 61st that Eversole's group had held since 2011, and if it was similar to the 680 previous ones, about 10 to 15 percent of the veterans would land jobs. Some candidates with polished resumes and in-demand skills would walk away from the fair with four or five offers each.

Eversole didn't know much about the veterans who found



MICHEL DU CILLE/AP

Sgt. Nathan Bianchi, who helps oversee a 36-soldier platoon in the Texas National Guard, prepares at home in San Antonio for his weekend drill.

jobs through his fairs. Even if the presumption is that these hiring programs are helping Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans, none of the big ones tracks age or era of service, only that at some point the person was in the military.

He did know that some veterans at the fair would get no offers at all, and those were the ones he began scanning the room for, hoping to get a better sense of who his program wasn't reaching. Eversole

spotted one veteran who was so nervous that he seemed to be trembling. There was at least one person like him at every fair. This veteran had close-cropped hair and a wispy goatee.

"Can I look at your resume?" Eversole asked. "I've not ever done a resume before," the former soldier said. "It scares the bejeezus out of me."

Eversole tried to put him at ease. "I can see that," he said,

glancing at the name on the top of the resume. The former soldier's name was Tim. Eversole asked him about his career. The 46-year-old veteran said that he had parachuted into Panama with the Army Rangers in 1989, fought in the Persian Gulf War and two decades later deployed to Iraq. Eversole asked him if he had ever been wounded in combat.

"Which time?" he replied.

SEE UNEMPLOYMENT ON PAGE 5



April Escoffier Dinner

An eight course dinner accompanied by a selection of fine wines and fabulous live entertainment
\$84 Per Person

April 19, Saturday
 | Seating at 18:30 | Dinner at 19:00 |
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<p>SEAFOOD Seafood Lasagna Layers of fresh Pasta layered with Lobster and Scallop Mousse, topped with Grilled Shrimp, served with a Roasted Garlic Lemon Zest Butter Sauce, garnished with Fresh Spring Peas and Baby Carrots</p> <p>GAME Stuffed Quail Boneless Quail filled with a homemade Roasted Garlic and Pistachio Sausage, served with Natural Quail Au Jus and presented atop of Creamy Risotto, accompanied by assorted Farm Fresh Vegetables</p> <p>INTERMEZZO Grapefruit Sorbet</p> <p>ENTRÉE Lamb En Croute Loin of Lamb wrapped in garlic scented Spinach and baked in Crispy Puff Pastry, presented in a pool of Roasted Garlic Au Jus, garnished with Turned Potatoes and Farm Fresh Vegetables</p> <p>SALAD Spring Salad Fresh Springtime Baby Greens tossed with Sundried Figs, Candied Walnuts and Diced Mozzarella, Served with Herb Vinaigrette and Warm Cheese Silver Dollar Rolls</p> <p>DESSERT Cherry Delights Molten Chocolate Cake with Cherries Cherry Parfait Sakura Ice Cream</p>	<p>APPETIZER Tuna Tartar Fresh Tuna from Tsukiji Market, hand minced and layered with Avocado, served in a band of house Smoked Salmon, topped with a sunny side up Quail Egg, garnished with an assortment of Caviars and Mustard Seed Oil</p> <p>SOUP Gazpacho Chilled Spring Vegetable Soup, paired with Smoked Shrimp</p>
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Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

Easter Brunch!

April 20, Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Adult: \$29.95 Child: \$14.95(4-12)

Join our Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt and get a special hidden surprise!
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THE NEW SANNO

MILITARY

Unemployment: US Chamber of Commerce official finds many vets intimidated by job searches

FROM PAGE 4

He said that he had been shot in the hip in Panama and suffered multiple concussions from roadside bomb blasts during his tour as an Army mechanic in Iraq. "I got a couple of Bronze Stars and a Presidential Citation," Tim said. "Does that matter?"

"It matters," Eversole replied. "It matters a whole lot." Eversole pressed Tim to use an online "resume engine" that his group had designed to help veterans translate their military experience for civilian employers. The software prompted veterans with a series of questions about their careers. If a veteran answered that he was an infantryman, his new resume would say that he had "provided maximum versatility in chaotic and uncertain conditions."

If he typed that he was an Army Ranger, his resume would say that he had completed "one of the toughest training courses for which a soldier could volunteer." The veteran's resume would then be logged in a database that employers could search for promising candidates. The problem with the system was that veterans weren't using it. Fewer than 10,000 had completed resumes in the year since the engine had launched, and while Eversole wasn't sure why this was the case, he could sense

that Tim was going to be one of the veterans who wouldn't try it. "Don't get frustrated," Eversole told him. "I'll definitely get frustrated," Tim replied.

Eversole promised to contact him in a few days to see whether the software tool had worked for him. Soon, Eversole was back in his rental car, headed to the airport and dialing a Vietnam



Eversole

job with a car dealership in the Louisville area. "I met someone who I am going to ask for your help with," Eversole said. "He just needs to do a little work on his resume."

Back in Washington, Eversole told his staff that he couldn't stop thinking about the soldier. "This guy was a war hero," he said.

It would turn out, though, that Tim wasn't exactly that. He had never been an Army Ranger, but had never been wounded; he had

never been awarded a Bronze Star. He had fought in the Panama invasion and deployed to Kuwait in 2011. It wasn't clear from his military records whether he had ever crossed the border into Iraq.

But it was true that he was an unemployed veteran who really needed a job, and the way Eversole reacted to that one truth against those many lies got to the heart of what the veterans' unemployment problem had become at a time when two of America's longest wars were ending and it seemed like everyone wanted to help.

At first, Eversole speculated that Tim had suffered a mental wound, perhaps PTSD, in the Panama invasion. Maybe he had lied because he was struggling to find work and wanted to feel a little better about himself and his service. "He was clearly lost in the process," Eversole said. "Even if his story wasn't accurate, we shouldn't take that away."

Eversole tried to keep his focus on the pieces of Tim's story that were unquestionably true: Tim was part of a tiny minority of Americans who had volunteered to fight for their country during a time of war. He had still done something valuable.

It was the end of another long day in Washington that had, as usual, been full of meetings with

After the military

Two-thirds of servicemembers think they have the education and skills to compete in the job market. Nonworking vets are less confident than working vets that employers see service as an advantage.

Q: Do you feel you have all the education and skills you need to be competitive in the current job market, or not?

	Yes	No
	66%	33%

Q: Do you think employers see military service as an . . .

	Advantage	Disadvantage	Neither
All	62%	12%	24%
Working vets	65%	9%	23%
Nonworking vets	45%	23%	26%

Q: Do you think veterans deserve special advantages from employers when applying for jobs, or not?

	Yes	No
Iraq and Afghanistan vets	63%	35%
General public*	80%	16%

*Kaiser Family Foundation national poll, December 2013

Full results, methods and exact question wording and order are available at washingtonpost.com/polls.

SOURCE: This Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation poll

THE WASHINGTON POST

well-intentioned, important people who wanted to help veterans. Before he headed home, Eversole circled back one last time to his fleeting encounter with the former soldier from Louisville whose

false story had so moved him. "How do you help a servicemember with those challenges?" Eversole asked, meaning it sincerely. He asked it again. "How do you help someone like that?"

Celebrate the Week With Yokosuka MWR

Officers' Club 243-5030

Tasty Thai Promotion

Friday, April 11 from 1700 to 2100 in Kosano Dining Room
An array of exotic dishes and flavors in the way of a delicious buffet! Thai Chef Som is sure to deliver a great meal you won't want to miss. Please make reservations at 243-5030/5002/5624. \$19.95 / adult, \$9.95 / 8-11 years old, \$7.95 / 4-7 years old and free for 3 years and under. Open to all hands.

Administrative Professional Day

Wednesday, April 23 from 1100 to 1330 in Kosano Dining Room
Half priced buffet or a special set lunch 3 course set lunch for \$9.95. Reservation are recommended.

CPO Club 243-5506

CPO Club Dining room is open to all hands all the time!

Saturday Pancake Day

Saturdays from 0900 to 1330

Start your Saturday morning's with all-you-can-eat pancakes at the CPO Club. Fresh made Hawaiian, Coconut, & Plain Pancakes served with your choice of syrups and butter. Coffee, Tea or Milk included. Only \$8.95. For more information call 243-5506.

April is Healthy Eating Month

Please your pallet during the month of April and indulge as we will be serving a variety of healthy items on our

buffet. Try one of our healthy heart items on our a la carte menu or choose from our vegetarian plate selection.

Club Alliance 243-3000

King of Yokosuka No Curse Rap Battle

Friday, April 11 Starts at 2000 in Sharky's Bar

Oh yeah, absolutely no cursing! That's to tell the real freestylers from the shower rappers. So go toe to toe with other rappers. Beats provided by DJ Lock. Each rapper will get 30 seconds to go hard in the paint. The best rapper will get a \$200 NEX gift card and a trophy.

Girls Night Out with Wine Tasting & Girly Games

Friday, April 18 from 1900 to 2300 in 3rd Floor Lighthouse Lounge

Leave the kids and the man at home! This will be a fun night of laughs with crazy games! Bring your bestie or make new friends while sampling wines paired with hors d'oeuvres. Play "handbag hunt" "Cocktail Bingo" and "Girls Only Trivia" for prizes including a wine basket, massage, Dinner for Four and more! Get your tickets at the 2nd Floor Cash Cage.

Garlic Night

Saturday, April 19 from 1700 to 2045 in Italian Gardens
Follow your nose to Italian Gardens for our famous garlic night! Steamed garlic mussels and the garlic caesar salad make a delicious dinner!

Club Takemiya 246-8077

National Sibling Day

Thursday, April 10

Celebrate your brothers and sisters by receiving one free children's meal with a purchase of any children's meal.

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Sunday, April 13

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MILITARY

Military families pay when spouse strays

Loss of benefits by innocent kin weighs in rulings

By DAVID ZUCCHINO
Los Angeles Times

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Within the tight circle of Army spouses, Kris Johnson and Rebecca Sinclair became close friends as their ambitious husbands advanced rapidly in the officer corps.

Both women were ultimately betrayed by their philandering spouses. Both endured public humiliation as their high-ranking husbands were hauled before courts-martial amid salacious testimony about adultery and other sex-related military crimes.

And both women, along with their children, risked losing a lifetime of military benefits if their husbands were dismissed from the Army.

"You're advised to keep your mouth shut and let him retire because you could lose everything," said Johnson, whose now ex-husband, an Army colonel, pleaded guilty in 2012 to adultery, bigamy and other charges.

Rebecca Sinclair begged a military judge here March 16 not to strip her and her two young sons of military benefits after her husband, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair, pleaded guilty to a long-running, coercive affair with a junior officer. The general was allowed to retire at a reduced rank, preserving up to \$830,000 in benefits he and his family had earned for his 27 years of service.

Fear of losing benefits keeps many military wives from exposing sexual misconduct or other offenses committed by their husbands, say many of those familiar with the military criminal justice system.

Johnson kept quiet about her husband, Col. James H. Johnson III, as he carried on an affair with an Iraq war veteran while deployed to that country.

But when the colonel moved his mistress into his military quarters in Italy, his wife turned him in — painfully aware that she and her two children might be cut off from benefits as a result. A military jury in 2012 allowed the colonel to retire at reduced rank, keeping the benefits intact.

In both the Johnson and Sinclair cases, court concerns that dismissing the officers would also punish their families helps explain the relatively light sentences. Kris Johnson and others have campaigned for changes that would provide benefits to spouses of servicemembers kicked out of the military for crimes even if the offender is sentenced harshly.

Congress responded in January with a provision that requires the Pentagon to study the feasibility of providing "transitional benefits" to families in such cases. The study, to be completed



ANDREW CRAFT, THE FAYETTEVILLE (N.C.) OBSERVER/AP

The family of Brig Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair was allowed to keep the military benefits he had earned after he was convicted of charges related to an affair.

in May, will consider such questions as how long benefits might last and who would be eligible for them.

The changes would strengthen the military justice system, advocates contend. They would encourage spouses to report criminal behavior and clear the way for military judges or jury panels to impose heavier sentences. At the same time, they say, the proposed protections would support spouses who are otherwise cut loose after sacrificing for years to support a philandering spouse's career.

Since 2000, at least 19,000 servicemembers have been dismissed from the military for misconduct, according to the Pentagon. In the last five years, 116 senior servicemembers who have otherwise earned full military pensions with more than 20 years of service have been ejected from the military after a court-martial. For families suddenly stripped of health and dental care, military IDs and base housing after many years of service, the impact can be devastating.

Among those affected was Kari Bales, wife of Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, convicted of killing 16 Afghan civilians and sentenced to life in prison. She stands to lose her benefits if and when Bales'

life sentence is made final by the Army command in a review set for this summer, officials said.

"Family members have called us with heart-rending stories of suddenly being cut off through no fault of their own," said Joyce Wessel Raezer, director of the National Military Family Association.

Kris Johnson spurred the family group to petition Congress for the changes. Senior officers like her ex-husband and Sinclair can feel invincible and entitled after years of command authority and time spent away from their families, she said.

"When they had their zippers unzipped, they weren't thinking of their families," she said of the two officers.

Transitional benefits are already available to spouses of servicemembers convicted of domestic violence. Families get up to three years of health care, commissary and PX privileges and other benefits, including travel expenses to escape an abusive spouse.

Jeffrey Sinclair's sentencing March 20 drew widespread outrage. The 51-year-old general was allowed to retire at a lower rank, with benefits, after pleading guilty to adultery, mistreating his mistress, misusing his gov-

ernment charge card, impeding an investigation and other charges. He was fined \$20,000 and ordered to repay \$4,156 in charge card bills.

He had faced life in prison if convicted on original charges of sexual assault and making death threats, which were dismissed as part of a plea deal.

Johnson was fined \$300,000 in 2012, but allowed to retire as a lieutenant colonel. He pleaded guilty to adultery, bigamy, fraud, misuse of government funds and other charges that could have resulted in up to 54 years in prison.

Kris Johnson said prosecutors told her that the five Army officers on the jury panel kept him in the Army because they wanted to protect benefits for her and her children. "Justice was not served," she said.

Johnson said she supported her husband's career of 25 years, constantly moving and enduring multiple deployments while caring for two children. Like many military spouses, she was unable to build her own career; she relied instead on military benefits, including a generous pension earned after 20 years of service.

"I served too," said Kimberly Henne, who was married for 21

years to an Army master sergeant who was reduced in rank and sentenced to four years in prison for inappropriate contact with a minor. She kept her benefits when a judge allowed her ex-husband to remain in the Army.

"Those benefits are their meal ticket, their means of support," Henne said of spouses. "They're too important to risk."

Henne said she wrote the judge, citing her benefits and asking him not to dismiss her ex-husband. She said he imposed the prison sentence and reduction in rank to specialist in order to compensate for not discharging the master sergeant.

Johnson said she finally turned her ex-husband in because his behavior had become so audacious. He lived with his mistress and appeared with her at gatherings with fellow officers.

"I knew no one else was going to stop him, so I had to," she said.

In Rebecca Sinclair's letter to the judge, she said dismissing her husband from the Army would punish her and her sons, 12 and 10, "the only truly innocent victims" of the scandal.

"A fair sentence is one that doesn't punish us any further," she said.

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FORT HOOD SHOOTINGS

Troops based overseas say they feel safer

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

Strict gun laws in foreign countries mean many in America's overseas military communities feel safer than they would at home, although they're divided over whether tougher rules would reduce gun violence in the U.S.

"For the most part, I feel safer over here because we're not allowed to bring guns," said Sgt. Roseann Baena, 26, a soldier assigned to Europe Regional Dental Command in Sembach, Germany.

Her comment was typical of many overseas personnel interviewed since last week's mass shootings at Fort Hood, Texas.

In Germany, home to the largest contingent of U.S. servicemembers overseas, firearms licenses that require extensive training and background checks are mandatory for gun owners.

However, Baena, who comes from a family of hunters, isn't sure restricting guns in the U.S. would be the right response to mass shootings, and she doesn't want rules that could keep guns away from responsible owners who shoot for sport or recreation.

A handful of American lawmakers and commentators have suggested that arming all soldiers would make them safer, but Baena laughed at the notion.

"No, it would not," she said. "Golly."

Airmen and civilians interviewed at Ramstein Air Base echoed Baena's views.

Michael Folsom, 60, a retired Air Force major and a contractor at Ramstein, said he feels safer walking the streets in Germany than in his American cities.

"I think it's because of the mentality of the people, and also, I believe there's more accountability for your personal actions than there is in the United States," he said.

Folsom's son, Michael Folsom Jr., a missionary in Nicaragua visiting his parents, said Europe is safer than America because it has more restrictions.

America has more freedom than most places, he said, but added, "That freedom also lends itself to someone abusing it."

Despite the tough gun rules, Germany has had its share of mass killings, including several school shootings by disturbed teenagers in the past decade.

Some at Ramstein pointed to the 2011 Frankfurt airport shooting — in which two U.S. airmen were killed — as an example of the occurrence of gun violence despite strict gun regulations.

"If people have intent to target Americans, they'll do it, by any means they can regardless of gun laws," said Air Force Master Sgt. Teresa Newton.

Stars and Stripes' archives contain only a few reports of firearms-related incidents in overseas military communities in recent years.

In 2007 a sailor shot two coworkers with his service weapon in Bahrain before turning the gun on himself, and in 2008 a soldier in Germany was fatally shot after threatening German police with a service weapon. Last year, U.S. soldiers in South Korea fired a BB gun from a car at local nationals, sparking a police chase and shots from police that wounded a soldier in the vehicle.

In the United Kingdom, where there are almost 800,000 firearms licenses, 146 people were killed by guns in 2011, according to gunpolicy.org, a website hosted by the Sydney School of Public Health in Australia. The organization supports global efforts to prevent gun injury.

In contrast, the website tracks 11,000 to 12,000 gun homicides in the U.S. each year in a nation where there are as many guns as people.

U.S. officials at RAF Lakenheath discourage servicemembers from bringing firearms into the country, citing laws that make handguns illegal, and permits for other weapons are difficult to obtain. Those among the 9,000 Americans stationed in England who do bring firearms must store them in an armory if they live on



TAMIR KALIFA/AP

Fliers decorate a fence Sunday outside of Fort Hood's east gate in honor of those killed and wounded in the April 2 shooting.

Lakenheath.

The rules are little comfort for some.

"People will find a way to be violent regardless," said Air Force Capt. Scott Anderson, a psychologist with the 48th Medical Group.

In Italy — home to more than 10,000 U.S. military personnel — rules prohibit shipping weapons, including air pistols and air rifles.

Tech. Sgt. Brad Koch, from the 31st Fighter Wing's Operations Squadron at Aviano Air Base, said he feels "completely safe" in Italy and added that he'd like to see stricter gun laws in the U.S. "If (someone) has some sort of mental disorder then there should be a law to make it harder for the person with the disorder to gain access to weapons of any kind," he said.

Like Europe, Asia also has tough gun controls.

In Japan, for example, almost 100,000 U.S. military personnel, civilians and family members stationed there are subject to some of the world's strictest gun laws.

With few exceptions, no one, according to Japanese law, can possess a firearm or sword, the Asia Pacific Law Review says.

Only one Japanese citizen out of 200 owns a firearm, according to gunpolicy.org. In 2008 there were just 11 gun homicides in Japan, a nation of 126 million people, the website says.

South Korea, where 28,000 U.S. troops are stationed, has similarly tough gun controls, very low gun ownership and an ultralow rate of gun-related deaths.

U.S. Forces Japan isn't aware of any on-base incidents, deaths or injuries attributed to firearms on its installations in the past decade, according to USFJ spokesman Lt. Col. David Honchul.

U.S. servicemembers are prohibited from owning or possess-

ing personal handguns in Japan, he said. "As such, they are not allowed to bring them here from the States."

It is possible for some people to import rifles and shotguns to Japan, but they are severely restricted, and owners must register them and file other documents with the Japanese authorities before they can be imported, Honchul said.

At Yokota Air Base, Japan residents have been watching news of the Fort Hood shootings broadcast over the American Forces Network.

Military retiree Clive Clark, 41, of New Jersey, who's taking some time off in Japan after a 20-year career, said he feels safer overseas but he doesn't think Japanese-style gun controls would work in the U.S.

"The criminals (in the U.S.) already have guns, and the people who are going to be affected are the ones trying to defend themselves," he said over lunch at Yokota last Friday.

Another at Yokota, Air Force spouse Tyona Torres, 33, of Clovis, N.M., said she'd like to see limits on access to firearms in the U.S.

"I think they should have gun control," she said. "There would probably be less shootings."

However, Torres said there aren't easy answers to prevent tragedies like the Fort Hood killings.

"If the guy who did this was having mental health issues or [post-traumatic stress disorder], if he didn't reach out for help, how does anybody know to help him?"

Reporters Adam Mathis, Jason Duhir, Jennifer Svan, Matthew Willham and Marcus Kloeckner contributed to this report.
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Victims of other tragedies offer aid

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Dozens of families who lost loved ones during Sept. 11, the shooting at Connecticut's Sandy Hook elementary school and other attacks are trying to support victims of similar tragedies with a new fund, and its first efforts will focus on last week's shootings at Fort Hood.

The National Center for Victims of Crime told The Associated Press on Tuesday that about 70 families are supporting the fund to provide no-strings-attached cash payments. Victims' family members said they joined the effort out of frustration with how do donors were allocated after their own tragedies.

Caren Teves, whose son was killed in the 2012 movie theater shootings in Aurora, Colo., said she promoted the idea after learning that a Colorado nonprofit had raised millions of dollars using the names and photos of her son and 11 other victims without their knowledge or consent.

"It was the re-victimization that hit us the hardest," she said. "Alex was murdered, and then he was used to drum up funds by nonprofits for other nonprofits. I did not want my son's memory to be part of a money-making scheme. That's why we fought."

Rather than underwriting counseling services or financing a memorial, the fund will disperse cash to survivors and the families of the dead "so that they can heal any way they want to heal," said Anita Busch, who lost a cousin in the Colorado movie theater shootings.

The money will go to "mothers and fathers who can't get out of bed in the morning to go to work, and people who are riddled with bullets and need that help to get back on their feet," she said.

The fund went live in February, and it will first be tapped to help victims Monday to Fort Hood, according to National Center for Victims of Crime spokeswoman Kath Cummins.

Administration costs were largely covered by the families involved and corporate sponsors, but only about \$1,000 has been raised since the fund turned its sights Monday to Fort Hood, according to National Center for Victims of Crime spokeswoman Kath Cummins.

Donations can be made at nationalcompassionfund.org

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MILITARY

Marine fatally shoots colleague at NC base

By TOSHIO SUZUKI and CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Marine sentry at Camp Lejeune, N.C., who shot and killed a fellow Marine likely did so accidentally, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

An investigation by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service continues into the Tuesday incident, which occurred less than a week after a mass shooting that claimed four lives and injured 16 at Fort Hood, Texas.

"Indicators point to a negligent discharge situation," Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren told reporters Wednesday. "It appears right now to have been an accident."

Both Marines were on duty at the main gate of the North Carolina base when the shooting took place inside a small guard shack at 5:30 p.m. local time, said Capt. Joshua Smith, a spokesman for the base.

The Marine was shot once in the chest with an M4 rifle, he said. Following immediate resuscitation efforts at the scene by first responders, the Marine was declared

dead 40 minutes later at Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune.

Neither Marine has been identified, but Smith said the shooter was a man. The victim's name will be released after a 24-hour period following notification of the family, he said.

Smith estimated that during that time of day there can be seven to 10 sentries guarding the large gate. The guards typically carry M4 assault rifles, he said.

Accidental discharges by military members, while rarely resulting in death, are

not unheard of. Marine Col. Daren Margolin was relieved of duty in October after accidentally firing his handgun in his office at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. In one famous incident, then-Lt. Col. David Petraeus was accidentally shot in the chest in 1991 by a soldier who reportedly tripped and discharged his rifle during a live-fire exercise.

Camp Lejeune is home to the II Marine Expeditionary Force, 2nd Marine Division, and 2nd Marine Logistics Group, among others, according to the base website.



First lady Michelle Obama addresses the crowd at a 2012 White House event to honor military mothers. Former first lady Rosalynn Carter and former Sen. Elizabeth Dole will join Obama and Jill Biden, right, for an announcement Friday about support for caregivers of wounded servicemembers and veterans.

More star power for military family program

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Michelle Obama and Jill Biden are getting a dose of high-profile support for their nationwide effort to help military families.

Former first lady Rosalynn Carter and former Sen. Elizabeth Dole are joining Obama and Vice President Joe Biden's wife at the White House on Friday to help call attention to the millions of people who care for ill or wounded servicemembers and veterans.

A RAND Corp. report com-

missioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation and released last week estimates that there are 5.5 million military caregivers in the U.S., including more than 1 million who look after veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Those family members and friends often care for loved ones at significant emotional, physical and financial sacrifice, and the burden is only expected to deepen as the war in Afghanistan draws to a close and people continue to live longer.

Little is known about military

caregivers. The RAND Corp. study was commissioned to get a handle on the extent of military caregiving and to identify gaps in the web of programs, policies and initiatives that exist to support those individuals.

To that end, the first lady and Biden are expected Friday to announce new public and private sector commitments to improve the support network for military caregivers.

Michelle Obama and Jill Biden launched the Joining Forces initiative in 2011.

Ex-Marine guilty in '09 base killing

By MATT ZAPOTOSKY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A former U.S. Marine was convicted Tuesday of killing a fellow servicemember in what prosecutors described as a random, sexually motivated attack at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, and jurors must now decide whether he should be executed.

After deliberating for several hours over two days, jurors convicted Jorge Torrez, 25, of first-degree murder in the slaying of Amanda Jean Snell, 20, who was found stuffed in a locker in her room in July 2009. Prosecutors said that Torrez, who lived a few doors down from Snell at the military base in Arlington, Va., crept into the woman's room as she slept and strangled her with a laptop cord.

Torrez showed no reaction as the verdict was read in federal district court in Alexandria, Va., although he gazed toward the jurors as each confirmed his or her decision aloud. Prosecutors have asked that Torrez face capital punishment for the crime. Later this month, the same jurors will decide whether he deserves to die.

Torrez's crime is certainly heinous enough — and his victim sympathetic enough — to make the death penalty a possibility.

Snell, who grew up in Twentynine Palms, Calif., and Las Vegas, was known among fam-

ily members for her outgoing nature and "infectious personality," said Denise Alexander, her aunt. Alexander said that Snell volunteered helping autistic children and hoped to make a career of it when she had finished her Navy service.

"I didn't want her to join, but I was so happy she was stationed in D.C. because I was afraid it was going to be Afghanistan or Iraq — somewhere where she was going to get killed," Alexander said. "And then this happened."

At the trial, prosecutors said that Torrez was a predator who browsed Internet sites about rape fantasies and randomly attacked other women in Arlington after Snell's death. He was convicted and sentenced in those incidents in 2010.

Torrez was charged in Snell's death in 2011, linked to the slaying by boasts he made to a jailhouse informant and semen found on a bedsheet in Snell's room. Prosecutors said at the trial that Snell, too, appeared to be victimized at random.

Defense attorneys said that although their client was flawed, prosecutors failed to prove him guilty of killing Snell. They noted that a military medical examiner testified that Snell had no injuries from a strangulation or a rape and that some of what Torrez bragged about to the informant did not match the case's physical evidence.

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MILITARY

US to pull 50 missiles from silos

By David S. Cloud
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon plans to remove 50 nuclear-armed intercontinental ballistic missiles from their silos over the next four years but not eliminate them from the U.S. arsenal, a move aimed at complying with a 2010 treaty with Russia and avoiding a fight with members of Congress from states where the missiles are based.

Lawmakers had feared reductions in nuclear forces required under the New START treaty would eliminate an entire ICBM squadron at one of three Air Force bases in North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming where the U.S. keeps its 450 Minuteman III missiles — a potentially major economic blow.

A senior defense official, who briefed reporters Tuesday on the plan, said 50 missiles would be removed from silos at the three missile bases. That will keep all nine ICBM squadrons operational.

The decommissioned missiles will no longer be counted as operational under the treaty, but will continue to be maintained and guarded. The silos also will be kept operational, the official said, describing them as “warm but empty.”

Lawmakers from the three states applauded the plan, which avoids the need to lay off hundreds of Air Force personnel and cost millions of dollars that the bases pump into the local economies.

“Today’s announcement is a big win for our nation’s security and for Malmstrom Air Force Base and north-central Montana,” Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., said in a statement.

Malmstrom, near Great Falls, has been rocked in recent months by the discovery of widespread cheating on proficiency tests by Air Force officers serving on Minuteman III launch teams. Last month, the commander of three squadrons retired and nine other officers were removed after an Air Force investigation found cheating had gone on for two years.

ICBM squadrons also are at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming and Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota.

To comply with treaty limits on warheads and launchers, the Pentagon also will convert 30 B-52 bombers configured for nuclear weapons to carry conventional weapons.

The Navy will disable four launch tubes on each of its 14 missile-carrying submarines. The subs thus will carry up to 56 fewer missiles, each with four nuclear warheads.

The treaty calls for the United States and Russia to each cut their deployed nuclear weapons to 1,550 by 2018, down from a previous ceiling of 2,200. It also set a limit of 700 deployed missiles and bombers.

The decision to largely spare land-based missiles is at odds with the recommendations of some outside experts, who have called for eliminating or deeply cutting the Minuteman III and relying instead on submarines and bombers to carry nuclear weapons.

Bruce Blair, a former ICBM launch officer and founder of Global Zero, a group that seeks elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide, said it would have been more cost-effective and “strategically sensible” to eliminate an ICBM squadron.

Because it is in a fixed location, a Minuteman III missile is more vulnerable to a surprise nuclear attack and therefore would have to be fired quickly in a crisis, making it more destabilizing, Blair said.

“It is designed strictly to fight a large-scale nuclear war with Russia,” he said.



The USS Donald Cook, docked in Rota, Spain, in February, is headed to the Black Sea as part of a bolstering of U.S. forces in eastern Europe.

STEVEN BEARDSLEY
Stars and Stripes

AF fighter jets to train in Poland

By Steven Beardsley
and Jennifer H. Swan
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Air Force plans to send 18 Europe-based fighter jets to Poland in June for joint training at Lask Air Base, officials said Wednesday.

The F-16s from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, will also participate in a maritime exercise in the Baltic Sea, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa officials said.

Meanwhile, another U.S. warship is headed to the Black Sea for the third time in the past three months.

The guided-missile destroyer USS Donald Cook was slated to arrive Thursday after steaming in the Aegean Sea toward the Turkish Straits on Wednesday, according to a news release from U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa.

The immediate and longer-term bolstering of forces in eastern Europe comes amid expanded American efforts to reassure NATO allies after last month’s Russian invasion of Ukraine’s Crimea Peninsula. Agitation by pro-Russian protesters in eastern Ukraine and troop buildups on the Russian side of the border have upped tensions in the region and caused Washington to warn against further Kremlin incursions.

Currently, 12 F-16 fighter jets from

Aviano Air Base’s 555th Fighter Squadron in Italy are deployed to Lask. The Pentagon ordered the warplanes there, at the request of Poland, after tensions with Russia began mounting in Ukraine last month.

The jets augmented three C-130s from Ramstein that were already scheduled to train in Poland for several weeks. The C-130s — along with about 100 airmen — from the 37th Airlift Squadron are due to return to Ramstein on Saturday, USAFE-AFAFRICA officials said. No end date for the current fighter jet rotation has been announced, USAFE officials said.

The Germany-based F-16s will deploy to Lask from June 2 to June 21. In addition, two KC-135 refueling tankers from the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, U.K., will deploy to Povidz at the same time in support of the same mission, USAFE-AFAFRICA officials said.

During the rotation, the aircraft will participate in BALTOPS, an annual joint and combined maritime exercise in the Baltic Sea scheduled annually by European Command and led by NAVFOR, Capt. Michael Hertzog II, a USAFE-AFAFRICA plans officer, said in an email.

Meanwhile, the Cook’s operations in the Black Sea will be routine, likely

involving port visits or simple maneuvers with NATO nations, the Navy news release suggests. Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey are all members of the alliance.

Last month, the destroyer USS Truxtun exercised with Bulgarian and Romanian navies, and in February the command ship USS Mount Whitney and frigate USS Taylor entered before the Sochi Olympic Games. The Taylor later ran aground while attempting to port in Turkey. All those ships have since left the Black Sea.

Previous U.S. naval visits to the Black Sea were typically separated by months.

The consecutive visits send a clear message to Moscow. Russia, whose Black Sea Fleet is located in Sevastopol, frowned upon U.S. operations in the Black Sea even before recent events.

That the visiting ship is the Donald Cook carries added significance, as the vessel is the first of four Arleigh-Burke class destroyers to be stationed in southern Spain as part of a European ballistic missile shield widely opposed by Russia. The Donald Cook is on its first patrol since arrival in Spain in February.

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Lab confirms GI’s remains found in France

By Karen Herzog
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

An American forensic lab announced Monday that it confirmed through DNA testing that the remains recovered from a German ossuary in France are those of U.S. Army Pfc. Lawrence S. Gordon, who was mistakenly buried with the enemy after World War II.

DNA was extracted from bones by the national crime lab in France after Wisconsin filmmaker Jed Henry’s research through military records led to a crypt of an unknown soldier identified as a German, interred in France.

The French crime lab announced in February that it had a mitochondrial DNA match, meaning the results matched DNA from maternal relatives of Gordon’s. Samples then were sent to a DNA testing facility at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and to Bode



Gordon

Technology Group in Lorton, Va., for independent confirmation.

Bode not only confirmed the French crime lab’s results on Monday, but also announced that it did a more specific nuclear DNA profile for further proof of identification — all within eight days of receiving the DNA samples from France.

The DNA facility at University of Wisconsin-Madison will begin its testing this week. In addition to confirming the Virginia lab’s results, the UW-Madison lab is working on refining techniques for recovering DNA from bones and teeth that are 70 years old and older.

Henry became interested in the Gordon case because his grandfather, Staff Sgt. David L. Henry, of Virouzeau, served in the same reconnaissance company, and Gordon was the only member of the company who died and was not identified for a proper burial.

The U.S. military refused to help confirm the remains in the German crypt in France were Gordon’s, but French and German officials agreed to allow DNA to be extracted and tested in hopes of identifying the soldier.

U.S. military anthropologists and historians typically work for years on an unidentified soldier case. Exhuming remains for DNA analysis does not happen often.

In this case, Gordon’s remains were in a German cemetery in France and identified as those of a German. So the U.S. could not prevent the remains from being removed and tested.

WORLD



ALEXANDER ERMOHENKO/AP

People stand before a barricade at the regional administration building in Donetsk, Ukraine, Wednesday.

Ukraine warns separatists

The Associated Press

LUHANSK, Ukraine — Ukrainian authorities on Wednesday warned that they are prepared to use force to clear several government buildings seized by pro-Russian separatists in the east of the country.

Protesters continued to occupy the headquarters of Ukraine's Security Service in the eastern city of Luhansk, with hundreds of supporters camped outside and shouting "Putin! Putin!" in support of the Russian president.

The security agency had earlier said that the separatists inside the building, armed with explosives and other weapons, allowed 56 hostages to leave the building during the night. A spokeswoman said there were no other hostages.

But Tetyana Pohukay, a regional police spokeswoman, disputed that statement, saying there had never been any hostages inside, according to the Interfax news agency.

The Luhansk security services

building was among several government offices seized by pro-Moscow groups Sunday in an escalation of protests against the interim government in power since the ouster of President Viktor in February.

Serhiy Tyhipko, a lawmaker associated with the previous Ukraine government, urged the authorities not to storm the building in Luhansk but rather negotiate a peaceful solution. Tyhipko said the protesters were demanding to turn Ukraine into a federal state with broad regional autonomy, not to secede.

Turning Ukraine into a federation is Russia's key demand and the new government in Kiev has refused to fulfill it, calling it a precursor to a break-up. In Donetsk, where protesters were still occupying the government building, the regional governor Serhiy Taruta was meeting with key activists at a hotel to try to find a solution to the crisis.

All the cities affected by the up-

risings are in Ukraine's industrial Russian-speaking heartland in the east, which has a large population of ethnic Russians and where cultural ties to Russia are strong. Many residents are suspicious of government that took power in February.

Russia has tightened the economic screws on Ukraine since its Russia-leaning president Yanukovich was ousted from power. Russian President Vladimir Putin has now threatened that Russia's state-owned gas company could ask Ukraine to pay for gas in advance, according to Russian state news agencies.

Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said the standoff in Luhansk and the two neighboring Russian-leaning regions of Donetsk and Kharkiv must be resolved within the next two days.

"I want to repeat that there are two options: political settlement through negotiations and the use of force," Avakov told reporters. "We are ready for both options."

More pings raise hopes plane will be found soon

The Associated Press

PERTH, Australia — The frustrating monthlong search for the Malaysian jetliner received a tremendous boost when a navy ship detected two more signals that most likely emanated from the aircraft's black boxes. The Australian official coordinating the search expressed hope Wednesday that the wreckage will soon be found.

Angus Houston, head of a joint agency coordinating the search for the missing plane in the southern Indian Ocean, said that the Australian naval vessel Ocean Shield picked up the two signals on Tuesday, and that an analysis of two sounds detected in the same area on Saturday showed they were consistent with a plane's black boxes.

"I'm now optimistic that we will find the aircraft, or what is left of the aircraft, in the not-too-distant future. But we haven't found it yet, because this is a very challenging business," Houston said at a news conference in Perth, the hub for the search operation.

The signals detected 1,020 miles northwest of Perth are the strongest indication yet that the plane crashed and is now lying at the bottom of the ocean in the area where the search is now focused. Still, Houston warned he could not yet conclude that searchers had pinpointed Flight 370's crash site.

"I think that we're looking in the right area, but I'm not prepared to say, to confirm, anything until

such time as somebody lays eyes on the wreckage," he said.

Finding the black boxes quickly is a matter of urgency because their locator beacons have a battery life of only about a month, and Tuesday marked exactly one month since the plane vanished on March 8 with 239 people on board.

If the beacons blink off before the black boxes' location can be determined, finding them in such deep water — about 4,500 meters, or 15,000 feet — would be an immensely difficult, if not impossible, task.

The Ocean Shield first detected underwater sounds on Saturday before losing them, but managed to pick them up again on Tuesday, Houston said. The ship is equipped with a U.S. Navy towed pinger locator that is designed to detect signals from a plane's two black boxes — the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder.

A data analysis of the signals heard Saturday determined they were distinct, man-made and pulsed consistently, Houston said, indicating they were coming from a plane's black box.

"They believe the signals to be consistent with the specification and description of a flight data recorder," he said.

To assist the Ocean Shield, the Australian navy on Wednesday began using parachutes to drop a series of buoys in a pattern near where the signals were last heard.

Series of car bombs in Baghdad kills 16

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A wave of car bombings hit several, mostly Shiite neighborhoods of Baghdad on Wednesday morning, killing at least 16 people and wounding dozens, officials said, the latest bout of violence as Iraq prepares to hold the country's first parliament elections since the 2011 U.S. troop withdrawal.

The explosions, all from parked explosives-laden vehicles, coincided with the anniversary of the

2003 fall of Baghdad in the hands of U.S. troops.

The bombings bore the hallmarks of an al-Qaida-inspired group and other Sunni insurgents, who frequently use car bombs and suicide attacks to target public areas and government buildings in their bid to undermine confidence in the Shiite-led government.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombings.

The deadliest of the day's attacks took place in Baghdad's central Nidhal Street, where four

civilians were killed and 11 were wounded, police officials said.

In the northern Kazimiyah district, three people died and nine were wounded in another car bombing. Car bombs also exploded in the areas of Shaab, Shammayya, Karrada and Maamil, killing a total of seven people and wounding 30, police officials added.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

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STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

Rwanda: 'Who are they to define us?'

By JONATHAN TEPPERMAN

Twenty years ago, the state of Rwanda set about trying to hack itself out of existence. Starting on April 7, 1994, Hutu extremists, in a premeditated 100-day campaign, systematically butchered close to 1 million Tutsis — three-quarters of all those in the country — as well as moderate Hutus, driving countless more into exile.

Two decades later, Rwanda is very much alive, indeed, in many respects, it's thriving. But it remains a confounding place.

Visit the country today and you find a remarkably peaceful and well-ordered land. Hutus and Tutsis — including former genocidaires and the families of their victims — live side by side in villages throughout the countryside. Personal crime is virtually unheard of, as is trash; plastic bags were banned in 2006. Under the savvy, technocratic leadership of President Paul Kagame, who has led the tiny, landlocked country since toppling the genocidal Hutu regime, Rwanda's economy has exploded. GDP has shot up at an average rate of 8 percent over the last five years.

Thanks in large part to smart governance, more than 1 million Rwandans have been lifted out of poverty since 2006. Child mortality has dropped 70 percent, and malaria-related deaths have plummeted more than 85 percent since 2005, though it helps that health care is universal.

Last year, the U.S. ranked Rwanda as the second-best place in Africa to do business. Transparency International counts it the second-least-corrupt nation on the continent, and last week the consulting firm A.T. Kearney ranked it as the most attractive African market in its first African Retail Development Index. Rwanda's first international non-issue — last April, did remarkably well. Meanwhile, 92 percent of children attend primary school, and Rwanda's parliament has a higher share of women — 64 percent — than any other legislature in the world.

Yet this narrative of dramatic progress sits alongside another, darker story.



Ben Curtis/AP

Rwandan President Paul Kagame, center, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, left, and Rwandan first lady Jeannette Kagame observe the arrival of the memorial flame at a ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide Monday.

In recent years, the charge sheet against Kagame has become alarmingly long and increasingly difficult to ignore. Though he still has many fans at home and abroad, including Tony Blair, Bill Clinton, Bill Gates and Clare Short (Britain's former minister for international development), dissent is growing. Rwandan journalists complain of frequent harassment, and last year Kigali's treatment of the media earned the country a "not free" ranking from Freedom House.

Meanwhile, Kagame has banned some political parties, won his last two elections by eyebrow-raising margins (more than 90 percent in both 2003 and 2010) and refuses to commit to stepping down when his second term ends in 2017, though the constitution requires it.

Talking about ethnicity in Rwanda has been banned, arguably to prevent divisions and promote a post-racial society. But many Rwandans complain that the best government jobs and opportunities go overwhelmingly to Tutsis, who make up only about 14 percent of the population. Although Kagame's Cabinet is mixed, for example, most of the top ministries are run by Tutsis. Worse, some of the president's most vocal opponents have started turning up dead under mysterious circumstances.

Even the U.S., Kagame's most stalwart

ally, finally seems to be losing patience. After years of unflinching support, in December 2012 President Barack Obama told Kagame to personally advise Kagame to stop meddling in neighboring Congo's seemingly endless civil war.

Such carping drives Kagame's many supporters, and the president himself, crazy. As he told me in a recent interview, he resents what he sees as foreigners' demands that the country conform to their own image, "without considering Rwanda's context."

"Who are they to define us?" he asks. Kagame's frustration is easy to understand. For one thing, Rwanda in 1994 was so devastated, fragile and bitterly divided that an immediate turn to multi-party democracy could have tipped it back into chaos.

For another, despite the criticisms, Kagame's accomplishments remain real, and they are vast. A man who grew up in Tutsi refugee camps across the border in Uganda has shown uncommon forbearance to many of his former persecutors; tens of thousands of Hutus have been formally pardoned as part of the country's reconciliation process. The president is obsessively hardworking and generally thought to be uncorrupt. And he has created a fiercely efficient and effective government, all in the face of mind-boggling odds.

To add fuel to the fire, many of the foreign capitals that criticize Kagame today were either complicit or indifferent during the bloodletting 20 years ago.

That criticism may be true, though Rwanda has been given billions in foreign aid dollars over the years. But in a key sense, it may add fuel to the fire. If this consummate technocrat is ever to fully realize his goals for Rwanda, he may find himself forced to liberalize its politics, not because anyone tells him he has to but because economic logic demands it.

After all, Kagame has promised that Rwanda will rise to a middle-income country by 2020, a hugely ambitious goal for a nation whose per-capita GDP was just \$644 in 2012.

Jonathan Tepperman is managing editor of Foreign Affairs. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

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Solitary confinement tantamount to torture

By MARY E. BUSER

New York state recently announced reforms to the practice of solitary confinement in its jails and prisons. The changes include a ban on this extreme punishment for adolescents, pregnant women and the developmentally disabled.

During my tenure as an assistant chief of mental health on New York City's Rikers Island from 1998 to 2000, I worked in the punitive segregation unit, which is known as "the Bing." Even if inmates had no psychiatric issues before they entered solitary, the strain of confinement to an 8-by-9-foot cell with a daily shackled walk to spend one hour in an outdoor cage — makes mental decompensation swift. Our team was a constant presence in the 500-cell unit — doling out antidepressants, antipsychotics and mountains of sleeping pills. When medication wasn't enough to hold a person's psyche together — when human behavior deteriorated into frantic scenes of self-mutilation, as often happened — we were called to cell doors.

While the terms "solitary" and "lock-down" are often banded about in the media, most people have no idea what they really mean. I often wished the public could have accompanied me to these cells — to see blood-smeard walls, manacles, noises and agonized, shell-shocked faces. Some in-

mates were unable to speak, cowering in a corner, often naked and smeared in feces. I imagine that citizens, steeped in the belief that the incarcerated are treated humanely, would be horrified. I was.

But I had little time to think about it. Decisions had to be made. The question we had to ask ourselves was whether the breaking point had been reached — if death or severe injury was likely. If so, the inmate would be bused to a smaller, more specialized unit in another jail.

The bus ride alone seemed to offer the isolation-therapy inmate enormous relief. We called it "bus therapy." Once he was a little better, though, he'd be shipped right back to complete his sentence. Like a weary swimmer treading water but starting to go under, he'd be pulled out to catch his breath, then thrown back in.

Time and again, I felt that this had all the earmarks of torture. But I brushed the word from my mind, reminding myself that I lived in a civilized country that prohibits such things. Besides, the occupants of these cells had done something to warrant this punishment — perhaps hurt another inmate or an officer.

Yet no matter how hard I tried to rationalize it, I knew in my heart that something was very wrong. A nation that prides itself as progressive on human rights had lost its way.

I often thought of Sen. John McCain, who

was famously held prisoner during the Vietnam War. Of his five-plus-year captivity, more than two years were spent in solitary. McCain was cruelly starved and viciously beaten — but he found solitary confinement to be worse. "It crushes your spirit and weakens your resistance more effectively than any other form of mistreatment," he has written. While our country decries the abuse that McCain endured, somehow Americans don't equate it with the same treatment that is meted out every day in jails all across the United States.

Lately, however, there are hopeful signs. Growing media attention toward our criminal justice system and its myriad problems is casting a spotlight on the deepest recesses of a cutoff world, where human beings in isolation endure untold suffering. New York's reforms are the stirrings of real change.

Having worked "behind bars" for five years in various capacities, I understand the rationale for solitary — the need to safeguard correctional staff, maintain jailhouse order and manage "high risk" inmates. If, however, the United States is truly to be the champion of human rights that Americans say we are, then surely we can find more humane methods of achieving these goals.

The writer worked in the mental health field on Rikers Island from 1995 to 2000. She co-founded the Samaritans of New York suicide prevention hotline, which she directed from 1984 to 1990.

OPINION

Shaming sexists can brighten S. Korea's future

BY WILLIAM PESEK
Bloomberg News

The presidency of Park Geun-hye would appear to have settled South Korea's gender debate. Just as some Americans like to believe racism ended the moment they elected a black leader, many Koreans figure their nation shed its sexist heritage the moment a woman became president.

Neither is true, of course. In February, the same month Park marked her first anniversary in office, Korea received ominous news from the U.N.'s gender-equality office: The country ranked near the bottom yet again in the 34-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in terms of the number of female Cabinet members. It's time that Park gave a more visible job to a woman, not just the gender-affairs portfolio. Why not a female foreign minister or finance minister?

As the second year of her five-year term begins, Park is trying a different tactic on Korea Inc.: shame. As part of her push to create 1.65 million extra jobs for women, Park plans to publicly identify companies with low female employment levels, thus embarrassing management.

In a recent op-ed, former Asian Development Bank chief economist Lee Jong-hwa pointed out that in South Korea, "women remain underutilized, to the detriment of the entire economy. Indeed, any effective South Korean growth strategy must create more and better economic opportunities for women, in part by establishing more accommodating working environments and instituting a more diverse and flexible education system." But outside of imposing formal quotas, it's not clear how the government can identify companies that are underutilizing the female workforce is good for growth, innovation and profits.

There are some things Park can do, of course. In December, the nation's first female president named Korea's first female bank head. Kwon Seon-joo now runs state-

owned Industrial Bank of Korea. Over at the Bank of Korea, Kim Choong-soo (whose term ended on March 31) named the institution's first woman deputy governor and created a career-track program to identify female talent.

Park's name-and-shame policy hopes to broaden this dynamic. With the nation's population aging rapidly and immigration less open than economists might like, Korea needs women to serve as a new growth engine. Park wants to lift the female employment rate to 61.9 percent from 53.5 percent before her term ends in 2018. She also directed Cho Yoon-sun, minister for gender equality, to prod the family-run industrial groups called chaebol to scrap male-friendly employment practices.

As part of her push to create 1.65 million extra jobs for women, [President Park Geun-hye] plans to publicly identify companies with low female employment levels, thus embarrassing management.

Also, executives of companies with 500 employees or more and a sub-70 percent female share of staff based on their industry's average for three straight years will be outed. Gender McCarthyism? Hardly. Korea Inc. has had free rein to maintain hiring and promotion systems to the detriment of economic growth. It's past time executives stepped out of their comfort zones and embraced more enlightened human-capital policies.

Park's government plans to boost subsidies for child care leave and preferential



ANH YOUNG-JOON/AP

South Korean President Park Geun-hye shakes hands with Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott during their meeting at the presidential house in Seoul, South Korea, on Tuesday.

treatment for "family friendly" companies on government contracts. Other steps include encouraging more flexible working hours, broadening day care programs and improving training for mothers seeking to re-enter the labor force. Education campaigns might help, too. A survey coinciding with International Women's Day finds Korean husbands spend less time helping out at home than their OECD peers.

Park also is creating a database of 100,000 female talents to help achieve greater equality at senior levels in the public and private sectors.

One of the biggest threats to Korea's 3.7 percent growth is demographic headwinds. Last year, the OECD estimated that Korea would add about 1 percentage point to growth if it had more equal employment. That would come in handy ahead of 2018, when the working-age population is projected to start declining.

Korea still suffers from sexist political and business cultures. If humiliating those whose antiquated views are limiting the nation's future helps, then by all means shame away.

William Pesek is a Bloomberg View columnist.

A public-minded charge for change on Wall Street

BY SILVIO LACETTI
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Two years ago, protesters were occupying Wall Street. Today, according to the new book "Flash Boys" by Michael Lewis, we have an occupation conducted by a group of techies who somehow found each other and declared war on Wall Street. These "flash boys" have a more limited agenda than Occupy Wall Street's, but still one that encompasses a fundamental theme: to root out shady practices that may harm the American public.

The "boys" have targeted the enablers (big brokers and exchanges) of predatory forms of high frequency trading, or HFT, in an effort to help retail investors. These include individuals who hold equities in IRAs, 401(k)s, pension plans, 529s, etc. The "flash boys" and others contend that billions of dollars annually are being unnecessarily transferred from investors to the fastest HFT firms and the exchanges and broker-dealers who support them.

So what's wrong with this? Plenty! One predatory HFT strategy, through the use of ultrahigh-speed technology and mathematical modeling, the traders are able to detect the imminent presence of large stock orders (yours and others bundled together) in the marketplace before they are fully executed.

These predatory can then buy/sell ahead of the order, skimming a profit of as much as

The "flash boys" and others contend that billions of dollars annually are being unnecessarily transferred from investors to high-frequency trading firms and the exchanges and broker-dealers who support them.

pennies per share. When summed over billions of individual trades per year, and with HFT being an estimated 50 percent of daily volume, this strategy (and others) can add up to billions of dollars in profits. While not illegal, perhaps, as defenders of the practice would say, it is seemingly unethical to profit off the average investor in this manner.

But there is more behind this phenomenon. To see a full picture, I turn to discussions I had with one of the "flash boys" whom I had the pleasure of meeting and employing in my research when he was a student at Stevens Institute of Technology. John Schwall made an immediate impression on me. I realized, before he did, the tremendous transformative potential he could bring to any situation. After a rocky start at Stevens, he eventually became — as I dubbed him — the president of all presidents. That is, he was president of just about every important student group on campus.

In the book, he is portrayed as a patriotic member of the "geek squad" — perhaps a misnomer for a guy who was once a New York City wrestling champion in 9/11. There-

after, he saw his work at Bank of America as a quasi-sacred trust. That changed after he witnessed how Merrill Lynch's trading in questionable housing loans led to its near collapse.

Merrill Lynch was saved by Bank of America, which received U.S. government bailout money to prevent its own collapse. Most frustrating to John in this scenario was that Merrill Lynch executives, after their rescue and with intimate knowledge of the firm's demise, still awarded themselves record bonuses.

That outrage resulted in an epiphany for Schwall, and he made up his mind to do all he could to clean up Wall Street.

Hence, the creation of a new exchange that he and his fellow "flash boys" have designed. This marketplace, IEX, aims to neutralize predatory HFT practices by placing all market participants on equal footing for trades executed at the most current stock prices.

Moreover, IEX aspires to set the highest standard of trust in financial services. I called John in the wake of the Lewis book release and the ensuing media frenzy,

and he explained how the company has received thousands of phone calls and emails from people throughout the country, many just to say, "Thank you."

Many are taking notice. Wall Street firms such as Goldman Sachs have publicly called for change, including an endorsement for IEX.

Federal and state authorities, including the SEC, the Justice Department, the FBI, and the New York attorney general's office, are said to be investigating or starting to investigate the HFT phenomenon.

IEX's success may result in a shift in values of American culture and education. Over the past decade or more, financial firms infamously created destructive financial products while at the same time creating complex HFT algorithms designed to profit from equity market inefficiencies. There's no added social value in this work.

It is done by some of America's brightest graduates in physics, mathematics, computer science and engineering. These minds could otherwise engage in solving real social problems. I know this as well as anyone. I taught these types of students throughout my career.

I am pleased that John is leading a public-minded charge for change on Wall Street. My hope is that we find more great, young minds to tackle serious problems in all areas of American life.

Silvio Lacetti is a retired professor of social sciences at Stevens Institute of Technology.

NATION

20 hurt in stabbings at Pa. high school

Police say 16-year-old boy had 2 knives

By KEVIN BEGOS
The Associated Press

MURYSVILLE, Pa. — A 16-year-old armed with two knives went on a stabbing and slashing spree at a high school near Pittsburgh on Wednesday, leaving as many as 20 people injured, including a school police officer who eventually subdued the boy with the help of an assistant principal, police said.

Of the 19 students injured, four suffered serious wounds, but all were expected to survive, hospital officials said. The injured officer was discharged from the hospital.

Murrysville police Chief Thomas Seefeld said the bloody crime scene at Franklin Regional High School, some 15 miles east of Pittsburgh, was "vast" and may take a couple days to process.

Police haven't named the suspect, who was taken into custody for questioning and later driven from the police station in the back of a cruiser for treatment for a minor hand wound.

Investigators haven't determined a motive, but Seefeld said they're looking into reports of a threatening phone call between the suspect and another student the night before. Seefeld didn't specify whether the suspect re-

portedly received or made the call.

Two student victims were in critical condition, according to Dr. Mark Rubino, of Forbes Regional Medical Center, the closest hospital to the school, where eight victims were taken.

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center treated a dozen patients. Officials said a 17-year-old boy and 14-year-old boy were in critical condition, a 17-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were in serious condition, and a 17-year-old boy and two 17-year-old girls were in fair condition.

Five UPMC patients had been discharged, including three 15-year-old boys, a 16-year-old girl and an adult.

Seefeld wouldn't detail the carnage beyond saying, "The juvenile went down the hallway and was flashing two knives around and injured the people."

The chief said someone, possibly a student, pulled a fire alarm after seeing some of the victims being stabbed.

Although that created chaos, he said, it also resulted in students running out of the school to safety faster than they might have otherwise.

The fire alarm being pulled probably assisted with the evacuation of the school and that was a



SEAN STIPP, (PITTSBURGH) TRIBUNE REVIEW/AP

Parents and students embrace near Franklin Regional High School after as many as 19 students were stabbed by a knife-wielding suspect at the Murrysville, Pa., school on Wednesday.

good thing that that was done," Seefeld said.

The district serves about 3,600 students who live in the bedroom communities of Murrysville, Export and Delmont.

Parents and former students say the school, which doesn't have metal detectors but does spot searches when security officials deem it necessary, generally does a good job of keeping students

safe. "I think the school reacted as fast ... as possible," said Rich Nickel, whose daughter, Jenna, 16, is a sophomore. "It's obviously a [one] individual's act."

Tamerlan Tsarnaev sought name change

WASHINGTON — Less than three months before the Boston Marathon bombings, a bitter, frustrated Tamerlan Tsarnaev visited a federal immigration office in the Boston area and signed forms seeking to legally change his first name.

Eager to recast himself in the model of a well-known rebel figure killed by Russian forces in 2009, Tsarnaev chose as his new name "Muaz," according to a previously undisclosed Homeland Security Department petition form, which was obtained by the Los Angeles Times/Tribune Washington Bureau.

It was not only a tribute to Emir Muaz, a celebrated fighter in Russia's Dagestan republic, it was also the nickname rebels had given Tsarnaev during his six-month visit to the region in 2012, law enforcement officials say.

Asked as part of the Jan. 23, 2013, application to explain his name change request, Tsarnaev described the decision in political terms, according to a federal law enforcement official close to the Boston bombing case.

"He said, 'The Russian people have been terrorizing my home country for all these years. This is why he needed to come back to America and help,'" the official said.

From wire reports

GOP derails gender pay gap bill in Senate

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans derailed a Democratic bill Wednesday curbing paycheck discrimination against women, an effort that even in defeat Democrats hoped would pay political dividends in this fall's congressional elections.

Wednesday's vote was 53-44 to halt GOP tactics aimed at derailing the legislation, but that fell seven short of the 60 votes Democrats needed to prevail.

The outcome on the Senate floor was not a surprise, but Democrats were playing to a wider audience.

With public opinion polls showing Democratic voters less enthusiastic than Republi-

cans this year, Democrats aimed the measure at women, who historically lean more toward their party than men. They were also casting the issue as a crucial one for the middle class because so many families rely on female wage-earners — and promised to revisit it before Election Day.

"I want everyone to know, everyone in the Senate and everyone in the United States of America, though we lost the vote, we refuse to lose the battle," said Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., the measure's sponsor. "We are going to continue the fight."

Wednesday's bill was the latest in a campaign-year parade of measures Democrats hope will drive sympathetic voters to the polls this November. Others include proposals to

extend expired unemployment benefits, raise the minimum wage and make student loans more affordable.

This is the third consecutive election year in which Senate Democrats have pushed the bill making it harder for employers to pay women less than men in comparable jobs — and easier for aggrieved workers to sue. Republicans have shot it down each time.

Every voting Republican voted to block the bill. They were joined by Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, who normally sides with Democrats.

Republicans, with strong backing from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other business groups, said the measure would tie the hands of employers.

Database shows Medicare is lucrative for some doctors

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Medicare paid a tiny group of doctors \$3 million or more apiece in 2012. One got nearly \$21 million.

Those are among the findings of an Associated Press analysis of physician data released Wednesday by the Obama administration, part of a move to open the books on health care financing.

Topping Medicare's list was Florida ophthalmologist Salomon Melgen, whose relationship with Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., made headlines last year after

news broke that the lawmaker used the doctor's jet for trips to the Dominican Republic. Medicare paid Melgen \$20.8 million.

AP's analysis found that a small sliver of the more than 825,000 individual physicians in Medicare's claims data base — just 344 physicians — took in top dollar, at least \$3 million apiece for a total of nearly \$1.5 billion.

AP picked the \$3 million threshold because that was the figure used by the Health and Human Services inspector general in an audit last year that recommended Medicare automatically scruti-

nize total billings above a set level. Medicare says it's working on that recommendation.

About 1 in 4 of the top-paid doctors — 87 of them — practice in Florida, a state known both for high Medicare spending and widespread fraud. Rounding out the top five states were California with 35 doctors in the top group, New Jersey with 27, Texas with 23, and New York with 18.

In the \$3 million-plus club, 151 ophthalmologists — eye specialists — accounted for nearly \$658 million in Medicare payments, leading other disciplines. Cancer

doctors rounded out the top four specialty groups, accounting for a combined total of more than \$477 million in payments.

Overall, Medicare paid individual physicians nearly \$64 billion in 2012. The median payment — the point at which half the amounts are higher and half are lower — was \$30,265.

AP's analysis focused on individual physicians, excluding about 55,000 organizations that also appear in the database, such as ambulance services. None of those entities was paid \$3 million or more.

WORLD

Comic-book artist Kazuto Tatsuta draws the main character in his comic "1F: The Labor Diary Of Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant" in his studio outside Tokyo.

AP photos

'THIS IS LIKE GOING TO WAR'

FUKUSHIMA NUKE WORKER LIFE GETS RECORDED AS MANGA

By YURI KAGEYAMA
The Associated Press

TOKYO — First off, no one who works at Japan's wrecked nuclear power plant calls it Fukushima Dai-ichi, comic-book artist Kazuto Tatsuta says in his book about his time on the job. It's *ichi efu*, or 1F.

It's not "hell on earth," but a life filled with a careful routine to protect against radiation. A good part of the day is spent putting on and taking off protective layer after layer: hazmat suits, gloves, boots and filtered masks. Even bus and van interiors are covered in plastic.

Workers say they will lose their jobs if they talk to reporters and their bosses find out. That makes Tatsuta's manga, "1F: The Labor Diary Of Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant," a rare look at the nuclear plant that suffered three meltdowns after the 2011 tsunami, and will take decades to decommission.

Tatsuta worked at the plant from June to December 2012 in part because he was struggling as a manga artist, but "1F" is his biggest success yet.

The opening episode won a newcomer award and was published last year in *Morning*, a weekly manga magazine with a circulation of 300,000. The first several episodes are coming out as a book next month, and publisher Kodansha Ltd. plans on turning "1F" into a series.

Tatsuta said "1F" is not about taking sides on the debate over nuclear power, but simply a story of what it's like to work there.

"I just want to keep a record for history. I want to record what life was like, what I experienced,"

he told The Associated Press in his studio outside Tokyo this week.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., the utility that runs Fukushima Dai-ichi, rarely provides media access to the inner workings of the plant, except for orchestrated press tours.

Tatsuta is a pen name. The 49-year-old artist asked that his real name not be used for fear of being barred from working at the plant in the future.

He said the job is surprisingly similar to other construction work, which also carries its risks, such as flying sparks and crashing walls.

"I never felt I was in physical danger. You can't see radiation," he said.

Tatsuta's story, complete with drawings of shattered reactor buildings, brings to life everyday details — how gloves get drenched with sweat, or how annoyingly itchy a nose can get behind the mask.

Laughter and camaraderie fill the rest area, where drinks and food are plentiful but there are no flushing toilets. In one telling scene, an elderly worker says: "This is like going to war." Drawings show the daily routine, different

kinds of masks, the layout of the grounds.

After Tatsuta had to quit when his radiation exposure neared the annual legal limit of 20 millisieverts, he decided to put down what he had undergone in manga. Almost every profession — baseball player, "salaryman," samurai, chef — has been depicted in manga, but no manga had ever depicted the life of the nuclear worker.

Tatsuta stressed he doesn't want to glorify them but insisted they deserve to get paid more. The work starts at about \$80 a day, although it goes up to \$200 a day for the most dangerous tasks.

'I just want to keep a record for history. I want to record what life was like, what I experienced.'

Kazuto Tatsuta
manga artist and former
Fukushima Dai-ichi
power plant worker



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

THE CENSUS



8 The length in years of a prison sentence given to a man who set a Christmas tree on fire at a Denny's restaurant in San Antonio. Christopher Maddocks pleaded no contest to felony arson. He was also ordered to pay \$22,000 in restitution over the December 2012 fire that severely damaged the eatery. A waitress told police that she had about 20 customers when Maddocks and another man twice complained about waiting for their order. The waitress was checking on their food when she saw the tree on fire and the men gone. Surveillance footage showed Maddocks putting a burning object in the tree.



ANDREAS FUHRMANN, (REDDING, CALIF.) RECORD SEARCHLIGHT/AP

60-year-old woman reports being shot

OR PORTLAND — A 60-year-old Monroe woman reported two non-life-threatening injuries after she said she was shot while walking from her newspaper box to her house. The Register Guard reported that Gale Folgestrom said she was shot on the left side of her lower back and on her left buttocks around 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Folgestrom told sheriff's deputies that she heard about 40 rounds of ammunition being fired when she walked outside, which she said is fairly common in the area.

Deputies spoke to two men who were target practicing on their property about 100 yards away from the site of the shooting. Deputies recovered two handguns and ammunition the two were using.

No one charges have been filed in connection with the shooting.

Vet school releases bald eagle into the wild

LA BATON ROUGE — The door to the large portable kennel opened and the adult bald eagle immediately took flight down the levee toward the Mississippi River.

There, she stopped. Sitting at the base of the levee near the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, she paused to look around a bit, seeming to pose for the cameras used to document her release after four months at the school recovering from a broken shoulder.

The injured bald eagle released in late March was found in the New Orleans area earlier this year and eventually was brought

The birdman of Redding

Robert Shepherd, of Redding, Calif., feeds the birds on Park Marina Drive in Redding on Friday. Shepherd says he feeds them a couple of times a week.

to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, where the fractured bone in her right shoulder was allowed time to heal. According to Javier Nevarez, associate professor of zoological medicine at LSU, the eagle was likely hit by a car. "Fortunately, the fracture itself was already healing on its own so we didn't have to do much," he said. "Her chances are pretty good."

Grandfather dies after punch by grandson

LA MARRERO — The Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office said a 14-year-old boy reportedly punched his grandfather, who died of injuries from his head hitting the ground.

Col. John Fortunato said investigators have not filed charges against the boy, who was not identified because he is a juvenile. Fortunato said in a news release that witnesses told investigators they had begun arguing inside an apartment complex and continued on the street. The witnesses said the boy hit his grandfather only once, after the 52-year-old began swinging at him.

Feds: Engineer in rail crash had sleep apnea

NY NEW YORK — Federal investigators said the engineer on a New York commuter train that derailed last year, killing four people, has a serious sleep disorder. A medical document made

available Monday by the National Transportation Safety Board says William Rockefeller has "severe obstructive sleep apnea."

The NTSB did not say whether the engineer's disorder contributed to the crash. Apnea can disrupt normal sleep and result in sleepiness. Rockefeller's lawyer and union leader have suggested the engineer nodded off as the train raced toward a sharp curve in the Bronx, where it derailed.

The document says Rockefeller had not been tested for the disorder before the Dec. 1 derailment. The Metro-North railroad said it was reviewing the document.

The NTSB said its determination of the cause would come in its final report.

Man impaled by stick in snowmobile crash

NH PITTSBURG — Authorities said a Concord man was seriously injured when he fell off his snowmobile in northern New Hampshire and ended up with a stick stuck in his head.

New Hampshire Fish and Game said Joshua Carlson, 34, was riding off a designated trail in Pittsburg on Saturday afternoon when he fell off the snowmobile and struck a tree. He was taken to Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook with serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

Officials said carelessness and environmental factors appear to have played a role. They reminded residents that it is illegal to

ride off designated trails.

Police: Man charged in wife's shooting death

MD MONKTON — Baltimore County police said an 82-year-old Monkton man has been charged in the shooting death of his 78-year-old wife at their home.

Police announced Tuesday that Glen Treslar has been charged with first-degree murder in the death of his wife, Yvonne, and is being held without bail at the Baltimore County Detention Center.

Officers went to the Treslars' home on Garfield Avenue on Monday afternoon after a friend called 911, concerned that something was wrong. Police said Treslar told officers that he had just shot his wife and they found her in a bedroom, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police said Treslar told officers he argued with his wife earlier, but didn't explain why he shot and killed the family dog.

'Sexting' investigation implicates teenagers

VA RICHMOND — Authorities said more than 100 central Virginia teenagers have been implicated in a six-county "sexting" investigation.

Maj. Donald Lowe, of the Louisa County Sheriff's Office, said Tuesday that only three or four people are likely to be charged as a result of an investigation that

uncovered more than 1,000 photos or videos of nude or semi-nude teens. He said a few of the images are sexually explicit.

The investigation began last month after a Louisa parent reported suspicious activity on her child's Instagram account. It quickly spread to include teens in Fluvanna, Orange, Gloucester, Albemarle and Hanover counties. About three dozen cellphones have been turned over for forensic analysis.

Lowe said the main goal of the investigation is to educate kids about the dangers of sexting.

Port cleans up stinking mink carcasses

OR BROOKINGS — A half-ton of stinking mink carcasses spilled into the boat basin at the Port of Brookings Harbor on the Southern Oregon Coast.

Port manager Ted Fitzgerald said last week they got it all cleaned up, but the smell was so bad it was tough to get near the port for awhile.

Fitzgerald said crab fishermen have their own secret ingredients for bait, and mink carcasses are one of them.

He said one fisherman was taking his leftovers out to sea to dump on Wednesday when some of the load spilled in the boat basin, and the port had to clean it up.

State police spokesman Lt. Gregg Hastings said they are investigating whether any laws were broken.

From wire reports

FACES

Superheroes set to collide in May 2016

BY ANOUSA SAKOUI
AND CHRISTOPHER PALMERI
Bloomberg News

Walt Disney Co. has thrown down the gauntlet at Warner Bros. by scheduling the next installment of its Captain America film series to open on the same day its competitor releases a combined Superman-Batman movie.

Disney's Marvel unit said Monday a previously unidentified film scheduled for May 6, 2016, would be the third film in the series. The second picture, "Captain America: The Winter Soldier," set a record for an April debut last weekend with ticket sales of \$95 million in the

U.S. and Canada.

Pitting superheroes against each other flies in the face of recent efforts by studios to spread out competing films and avoid cannibalizing ticket sales. Plans by Disney and Time Warner's film division to come out with big pictures on the same day suggest competition for top dates remains fierce.

"It doesn't make a lot of sense for two huge superhero films to open on the same date but there is a lot of time between now and 5/6/16," Dan Fellman, president of domestic distribution for Warner Bros. in Burbank, Calif., said in an interview. "However at this time, we are not considering a change of date for

'Batman vs. Superman.'"

Disney, also based in Burbank, and Marvel didn't respond to requests for comment.

In January, Warner Bros. pushed back the release of its planned "Batman vs. Superman" to May 6, 2016, from July 17, 2015, according to Rentrak Corp., an industry researcher. Marvel has had an untitled release on the schedule for that date since July.

"I don't think the studios or the theaters would be happy to see this," Alan Gould, an analyst at Evercore Partners in New York, said in an interview. "I would be surprised if they didn't end up changing these dates."



"It doesn't make a lot of sense for two huge superhero films to open on the same date but there is a lot of time between now and 5/6/16."

Dan Fellman president of domestic distribution for Warner Bros.

New artists lead Billboard noms

The Associated Press

Newcomers Lorde and Imagine Dragons are the top contenders at Billboard Music Awards on May 18.

The breakthrough acts are finalists in 12 categories, thanks to Lorde's Grammy-winning multi-platinum hit "Royals" and Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive," also a multi-platinum Grammy winner. Those smashes are nominated for top Hot 100 song against Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines," Katy Perry's "Roar" and Miley Cyrus' "Wrecking Ball."

Imagine Dragons is also up for top artist and will battle Cyrus, Perry, Bruno Mars and Justin Timberlake, who is nominated for 11 awards.

Timberlake's "The 20/20 Experience," last year's best-selling album, will compete against efforts from Beyonce, Eminem, Drake and Luke Bryan for top Billboard 200 album.



JONATHAN BACHMAN/AP Images for WWE

Ultimate Warrior dies

Former professional wrestler James Hellwig, better known as Ultimate Warrior, died Tuesday, the WWE said. He was 54.

Scottsdale, Ariz., police spokesman Sgt. Mark Clark said Hellwig collapsed while walking with his wife to their car at a hotel, and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Hellwig was one of the industry's biggest stars in the late 1980s. He beat Hulk Hogan in a memorable match at WrestleMania in 1990.

He was in the spotlight again earlier this week, appearing on "Monday Night Raw" on April 7. He was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame on April 5.

From The Associated Press



RICHARD SHOTWELL, INVISION/AP

Forecast: Flying sharks

"Sharknado 2: The Second One" will take a bite out of New York City on July 30 in Syfy's sequel to the movie that aired last summer. Ian Ziering and Tara Reid return in the sequel and are joined by Vica A. Fox, Mark McGrath, Kelly Osbourne, Andy Dick and Perez Hilton. This time the mayhem moves from Los Angeles to the East Coast, where a weather system unleashes sharks on the populace and famous sites. "It's a whole different story, not just sharks ripping through flesh," co-star Karl Wuhrer said Tuesday at NBC's summer TV presentation in Pasadena, Calif. "New York is a character in the movie, the weather is a character in the movie."

Rancic supports boycott

From wire reports

Giuliana Rancic says she supports actress Kristen Bell's boycott of publications that feature paparazzi photos of celebrity children taken without consent.

The "E! News" anchor said Tuesday at NBC's summer TV presentation that she feels violated by photos taken of her and husband Bill Rancic leaving a doctor's office with their 1-year-old son.

Giuliana Rancic says when parents control their child's exposure in the media, it's different than feeling blindsided by paparazzi taking photos of celebrity offspring. Rancic says E! shows photos of celebrities and their children that come from social media accounts rather than paparazzi shots.

Rancic says she and her husband are planning to have a second child via the same surrogate who delivered their first.

NBC holding talent search for writers

NBC is launching a national talent search for comedy writers.

The initiative dubbed "NBC Comedy Playground" will give up to 10 finalists the chance to create pilots and a formal presentation.

NBC said Tuesday that two winners will be chosen to create half-hour comedies to air on the network in summer 2015.

NBC Entertainment President Jennifer Salke says the network wants to uncover original comedy minds who want an "express pass" into the TV industry.

The top two ideas will be picked by a celebrity advisory board including Mindy Kaling and Seth Meyers. Another prize, the chance to create an online comedy, will be decided by a public vote.

Application videos can be submitted online at nbccomedypground.com starting May 1.

Other news

HBO has renewed the epic fantasy series "Game of Thrones" for two more years. The network promised more "dazzling storytelling" in those fifth and sixth seasons. Sunday's season debut was seen by 6.6 million viewers,



Giuliana Rancic says she supports actress Kristen Bell's boycott of publications using pictures of the children of celebrities taken by paparazzi.

making it HBO's most-watched program since the finale of "The Sopranos" in 2007. Its audience was 50 percent larger than for last season's premiere.

"Battlestar Galactica" is coming to the big screen. Universal is planning to reboot the sci-fi franchise, with Glen A. Larson, who created the original 1970s series, set to produce. Jack Paglen will write the screenplay for the film, which is designed to completely reinvent the franchise.

Another Poehler sibling is bringing his comedy to television. Greg Poehler, whose sister Amy stars on NBC's "Parks and Recreation," stars in "Welcome to Sweden," debuting July 10 in the U.S. on the same network. He plays an accountant who follows his girlfriend back to her native Sweden.

Samantha Harris, 40, says she's battling breast cancer. The former "Entertainment Tonight" correspondent and "Dancing with the Stars" co-host Samantha Harris told "E!" she had refused to believe the lump in her breast was benign, even after numerous doctors told her so.

Archie Comics says the famous comic book character will heroically sacrifice himself while saving the life of a friend in a July installment of "Life with Archie."

The comic book series tells the story of grown-up renditions of Archie and his Riverdale gang. Archie's final moments will be detailed in "Life with Archie" No. 36, while issue No. 37 will jump forward a year and focus on his friends honoring the legacy of their red-headed pal.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

More job openings posted in February

By Josh Boak
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers posted more job openings in February, a sign that hiring will likely improve in the months ahead.

The Labor Department said Tuesday that employers advertised 4.2 million job openings, up 7.7 percent from January. That's the highest number of postings since January 2008, when the Great Recession was just beginning and the economy had yet to suffer the full shock of the downturn.

There are roughly 2.5 unemployed Americans for each open job, the report shows. That average is down from the 2-to-1 ratio that is typical of healthier economies, after peaking at 6.7 unemployed people for each available job in July 2009, just after the recession ended.

Hiring has accelerated over the past two months after a winter slowdown. After factoring in job losses, employers added 192,000



AP

Job seekers line up for a career fair at a hotel in Dallas.

jobs in March and 197,000 in February, the government said last Friday. That was significantly higher

than in December and January, when snowstorms reduced job growth. The unemployment rate has stayed at 6.7 percent for the past two months.

Tuesday's government report, known as the Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, offers a more complete picture of the job market. It includes additional data on hiring and the number of people quitting or being laid off.

Total hiring rose 1.5 percent to 4.6 million in February. That's still less than a healthy job market, where around 5 million people are hired each month.

The number of Americans who quit their jobs rose slightly last month, the report said, while layoffs declined.

The additional data in the JOLTS report illustrates how much turnover is happening in the job market. Stronger job markets usually include a greater amount of churn, with more people quitting and greater overall hiring.

A rise in those quitting jobs can be a positive sign because people

often depart for a new job or have confidence they will find one. More quits also open up more positions for job-seekers.

Janet Yellen, chair of the Federal Reserve, has said the central bank monitors the quits and hiring figures as key indicators of the job market's health.

Openings rose in February in retail and business services, as well as in construction, education and health care, and hotels and restaurants. They dropped in manufacturing and retail.

MARKET WATCH

April 8, 2014

Dow Jones Industrials	+10.27
	16,256.14
Nasdaq composite	+33.23
	4,112.99
Standard & Poor's 500	+6.92
	1,851.96
Russell 2000	+8.46
	1,144.24

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	\$1.4158
Euro costs (April 10)	€0.7063
Dollar buys (April 10)	¥7.2488
British pound (April 10)	£1.72
Japanese yen (April 10)	¥100.00
South Korean won (April 10)	₩1,016.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.7159
Canada (Dollar)	1.0355
China (Yuan)	6.1191
Denmark (Krone)	6.4626
Egypt (Pound)	6.8955
Euro	\$1.3262/0.7541
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7548
Hyogo (Yen)	225.43
Israel (Sheqel)	3.5895
Japan (Yen)	100.39
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2849
Norway (Krone)	5.9296
Philippines (Peso)	43.82
Poland (Zloty)	3.1212
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7506
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2679
South Korea (Won)	1,085.43
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9349
Thailand (Baht)	32.13
Turkey (Lira)	0.1052

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., non-UK British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.08
3-month bill	0.05
30-year bond	3.87

WEATHER OUTLOOK

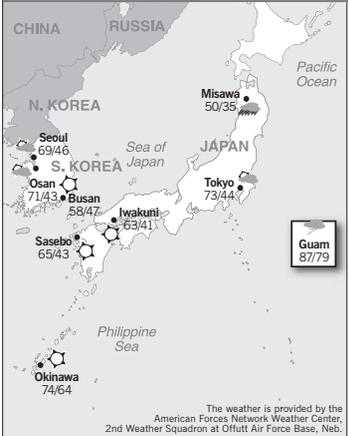
THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



THURSDAY IN EUROPE



FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Thursday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Texas	50	57	Cir	Chatanooga	73	41	Cir	Fort Wayne	67	42	Cir	Louisville	72	44	PCldy
Akron, Ohio	67	36	Rain	Cheyenne	60	40	Cir	Fresno	91	56	Cir	Lubbock	91	52	Cir
Albany, N.Y.	62	28	Cir	Chicago	64	48	Rain	Goodland	68	44	PCldy	Macon	75	41	Cir
Albuquerque	79	48	Cir	Cincinnati	71	41	Cir	Grand Junction	59	43	Rain	Madison	62	48	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	66	32	Cir	Cleveland	66	37	Rain	Grand Rapids	59	43	Rain	Medford	76	43	Cir
Amarillo	86	50	Cir	Colorado Springs	70	42	Cldy	Great Falls	60	35	PCldy	Memphis	77	49	PCldy
Anchorage	37	15	Cir	Columbia, S.C.	76	44	Cir	Green Bay	71	46	Cir	Miami	80	55	PCldy
Ashville	62	30	Cir	Columbus, Ga.	75	45	Cir	Greensboro, N.C.	61	40	Cir	Miami Beach	92	55	PCldy
Atlanta	72	47	Cir	Columbus, Ohio	71	41	Cir	Harrisburg	69	35	Cir	Milwaukee	58	48	Rain
Atlantic City	63	35	Cir	Concord, N.H.	61	22	Cir	Hartford	63	32	Cir	Mpls-St. Paul	60	44	PCldy
Bismarck	60	30	PCldy	Corpus Christi	82	61	Cir	Helena	63	36	PCldy	Missoula	60	31	PCldy
Birmingham	73	41	Cir	Dallas-Ft. Worth	83	56	Cir	Honolulu	69	43	Cir	Mobile	65	56	Cir
Bismarck	67	40	Cir	Dayton	69	40	Cir	Houston	80	52	Cir	Montgomery	75	42	Cir
Boston	60	35	Cir	Daytona Beach	77	54	PCldy	Huntsville	75	38	Cir	Nashville	73	43	Cir
Bridgport	69	33	Cir	Denver	67	41	PCldy	Indianapolis	69	43	PCldy	Norfolk	75	51	Cir
Brownsville	80	61	Cir	Des Moines	66	51	PCldy	Jackson Miss.	77	42	Cir	New York City	62	38	Cir
Buffalo	58	36	Rain	Detroit	64	41	Rain	Jacksonville	78	51	Cir	Newark	64	37	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	43	17	PCldy	Duluth	54	36	PCldy	Janeau	44	34	Snow	Norfolk, Va.	69	44	Cir
Caribou, Maine	60	32	PCldy	El Paso	89	59	Cir	Kansas City	70	54	PCldy	North Platte	64	43	PCldy
Charleston, S.C.	76	46	Cir	Elkins	69	29	Cir	Key West	79	67	Cir	Omaha	67	51	PCldy
Charleston, W.Va.	75	36	Cir	Erie	60	36	Rain	Knoxville	71	41	Cir	Orlando	80	55	PCldy
Charlotte, N.C.	73	40	Cir	Evansville	63	35	PCldy	Lake Charles	75	50	Cir	Orlando	80	55	PCldy
				Fairbanks	31	-4	PCldy	Lansing	61	42	Rain	Pasadena	73	45	Cir
				Fargo	58	36	Cir	Las Vegas	90	64	PCldy	Pendleton	66	35	Cir
				Flagstaff	70	32	Cir	Lexington	71	41	Cir	Peaslee	67	41	Cir
				Flint	64	42	Rain	Lincoln	67	51	PCldy	Philadelphia	68	40	Cir
				Fort Smith	79	51	Cir	Little Rock	75	47	Cir	Phoenix	98	68	PCldy
							Los Angeles	80	56	PCldy	Pittsburgh	69	36	PCldy	

National temperature extremes
Hi: Tue., 100, Death Valley, Calif.
Lo: Tue., 15, Lake Yellowstone, Wyo.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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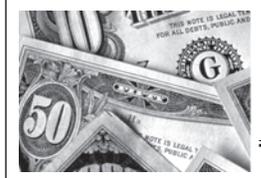
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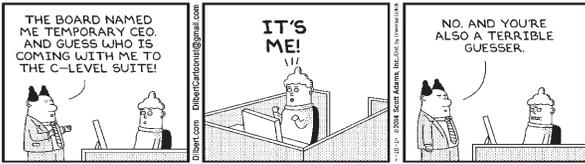
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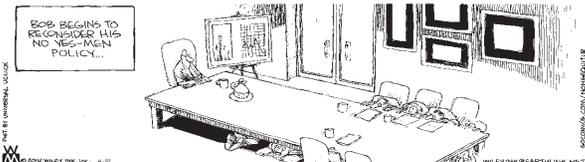
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Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Cantorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15		16						17			
	18			19		20					
21	22		23		24						
25			26		27		28		29	30	31
32		33		34		35		36			
37			38		39		40		41		
		42		43		44		45			
46	47	48			49		50				
51				52		53				54	55
56				57						58	
59				60						61	

ACROSS

- 1 Ring tactic
- 4 Double-parking penalty
- 8 Gauch's weapon
- 12 Id counterpart
- 13 Slaughter of baseball lore
- 14 Biblical kingdom
- 15 Library needs
- 17 Verdi's "— name"
- 18 Tease
- 19 Russian urn
- 21 Hocked
- 24 Candied veggie
- 25 Commotion
- 26 Knock
- 28 Messing or Winger
- 32 Auditor's hope
- 34 Janitor's item
- 36 Cleanser
- 37 Ready to fight
- 39 Crony
- 41 Raw rock
- 42 Mid-June holiday
- 44 Strolled
- 46 Nearly divine one
- 50 Role on "Bones"
- 51 Sandwich treat
- 52 Shelving of a sort
- 56 Stead
- 57 Inactive
- 58 Scoot
- 59 "— Make a Deal"
- 60 Vortex
- 61 Frat party item

DOWN

- 1 George W.'s brother
- 2 Past
- 3 Constant reader
- 4 Birdcage attachment
- 5 B&B
- 6 Greets silently
- 7 English composition
- 8 Turns into
- 9 Norwegian saint
- 10 Zhivago's love
- 11 "Omnia vincit —"
- 16 Family
- 20 Crazy
- 21 One of the Three Bears
- 22 Hebrew month
- 23 Water barrier

- 27 Burst
- 29 Shortcut to a website
- 30 Exceptional
- 31 M'icked
- 33 Wearing
- 35 Cat's dog?
- 38 U.N. VIP
- 40 Hammarskjöld
- 41 Menial servant
- 43 Gillis of old TV
- 45 Fond du —
- 46 Action figure, really
- 47 Ontario neighbor
- 48 Encounter
- 49 Connecticut politico
- 53 Antiquated Chris
- 54 Seek restitution
- 55 Chang's brother

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	R	A	E	P	P	S	G	R	O	W
L	O	W	S	E	A	L	L	E	N	A
A	S	A	C	A	R	E	G	I	V	E
B	A	Y	O	U	D	D				
			D	E	M	I	M	E	D	A
C	A	R	E	L	E	S	S	O	L	O
A	V	A	A	R	L	E	S	O	E	R
M	O	J	O	C	A	R	E	F	R	E
S	W	A	B	S	M	A	C	E		
			J	A	G	U	Z	B	E	K
C	A	R	E	T	A	K	E	R	A	X
A	L	E	C	Z	E	K	E	S	P	Y
R	I	F	T	A	G	E	S	S	O	S

4-10 CRYPTOQUIP

U N G P I Y C X T W M Y C M N P U I T E

X N C I T Y T C M T P J H P F H G P

S U E M T P I H Z J H P M . W H E ' M

X C F U W U W E ' M S C P Z F H G !

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A LITTLE TWERP REALLY WANTS A MIXED DRINK, DO YOU SUPPOSE HE EXPECTS A SHRIMP COCKTAIL?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals I

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Automotive 140

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

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Suzuki Esteem 2000.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

OPEL Vectra 2000 \$3600.
BMW 1200cc.
Pontiac Fiero.
Suzuki Esteem.

Motorcycles 164

BMW F650GS.
CycloSelf Motorcycle.
Ducati Monster.

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Jeep Grand Cherokee.
Toyota Tacoma.

Home Electronics 570

LG Microwave for Sale \$40.
Parasonic Cordless Phone.

Person to Person 800

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Automotive 140

GT500 Car roof carrier.
Auto - Vehicle Pre-owned.
www.viliscakautosales.com

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

BMW 135i.
Ford Ranger XLT.
Mercedes S-Class.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Corvette Coupe.
Honda Accord.
Dodge Charger.
Dodge Grand Caravan.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Honda Element.
Volkswagen Passat.
Volkswagen Polo.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Toyota Sienna.
Volkswagen Polo.
Volkswagen Passat.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Harley Davidson Road Glide.
Harley Davidson Super Low.

Business Opportunities 262

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Pet Accessories 822.

Home Electronics 570

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

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BMW F650GS.

Motorcycles 164

BMW F650GS.
Yamaha Fazer.

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Yamaha Fazer.
Yamaha Fazer.

Home Electronics 570

Parasonic Cordless Phone.

Person to Person 800

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NCAA WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

Shooting woes doom Irish's shot at perfection

By TERESA M. WALKER
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Notre Dame and coach Muffet McGraw have had more success against Connecticut than any other women's basketball program since the 2000-01 season.

Just not when it matters most, at least not the past two seasons.

The Irish, the nation's best shooting team, struggled to put the ball in the basket Tuesday night. With their shooting woes, they couldn't keep up with Connecticut in the first NCAA championship matchup of undefeated teams and lost to the rival Huskies 79-58.

It was the lowest-scoring game this season for Notre Dame (37-1), which had its season ended by UConn for a second straight year after losing to the Huskies in the national semifinals a year ago. Both losses stung for an Irish program that had won seven of the previous nine against UConn going into the showdown.

Senior forward Natalie Achonwa could only watch from the bench with her left leg in a brace to protect her torn anterior cruciate ligament that turned the Irish's top rebounder into a spectator.

"We can't hang our heads on one game," Achonwa said as she tried to choke back the tears sitting in the locker room with her leg

propped up. "We went 37-1. That's a great record."

Senior Kayla McBride scored 21 points in her final college game, and sophomore Jewell Loyd added 13. Michaela Mabrey had all of her 10 points off the bench in the first half.

Being on this stage is something very familiar for Notre Dame. The Irish are just the fifth team to reach the title game three times in four years. It was their sixth appearance overall.

"It's hard right now to remember what a great season this was, but I think that's what we need to reflect back and think about, getting here," McGraw said. "Tonight's game was incredibly disappointing for all of us, in particular the seniors. I know how much they wanted it, and I wanted it for them."

But the Irish still have only one championship, which came back in 2001. And this one wasn't pretty.

They didn't run their offense effectively as they usually do, and the Huskies dominated inside with a 54-31 rebounding edge.

Not being able to keep the Huskies off the boards stung the Irish last year in the national semifinal loss.

"We needed to box out and rebound," Loyd said. "Those are the things we didn't do tonight. It is strange because we did so well against Maryland in both boxing out



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Notre Dame's Hannah Huffman, left, commiserates with Michaela Mabrey after their 79-58 loss to Connecticut in the NCAA championship game on Tuesday.

and rebounding."

The Irish led only once at 8-6. Then a team that shot 51 percent during the season and was the second best scoring squad in the country — averaging 86.8

points a game — just went cold.

Though the bigger Huskies made it tough on Notre Dame, McBride said the Irish were mostly to blame for their struggles.

"We weren't in the rhythm in the offense," McBride said. "We weren't making the extra pass, we weren't playing the normal way we've been playing the past 37 games. I think that's what made it look so bad."

McGraw gave some of the credit to UConn's defense, especially Associated Press Player of the Year Breanna Stewart for being such a good shot blocker. Stewart blocked three shots. When UConn made a 16-0 run to take the lead for good, the Irish didn't respond well.

"We were pressing," McGraw said. "We were just trying so hard, and we went one-on-one ... our game has been team and assists and working the ball together. And I thought we tried to go a little bit too much off the dribble."

McBride hit 6 of 9 from the floor in the first half. But Loyd, the Irish' leading scorer averaging 18.7 points a game, was 3-for-9 in the first half. Loyd hit the fifth three-pointer of the half, pulling Notre Dame within 43-38 with 27.8 seconds left in the first half.

The Irish never got closer than that as Connecticut (40-0) won its record ninth national championship and finished off its fifth undefeated season.

Top dogs: UConn's unbeaten season stretches winning streak to 46 games

FROM BACK PAGE

The victory also meant that UConn is now the center of the college basketball world with both the men's and women's teams winning the championship in the same year again. The men's team beat Kentucky in the title game Monday night. This pair of victories came a decade after the Huskies became the only Division I school to accomplish the feat.

"I couldn't be prouder of what the men did last night," Auriemma said.

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw congratulated the UConn coach when they shook hands after the game.

"I said something like, 'I thought we were playing the Miami Heat for a while. You guys are just that good. What a great season.' You know, things like that," McGraw said. "I thought ... LeBron was the only thing they were missing."

While the names change at UConn, from Rebecca Lobo to Diana Taurasi, Maya Moore and now Stewart, Auriemma has been the constant, winning nine titles in only 20 seasons — including the

last two. He's never lost in a national championship game.

"Congratulations to the UConn Huskies for winning the 2014 NCAA National Championship!" Summit said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press.

"My compliments also to coach Geno Auriemma for winning his ninth national title. He has accomplished this feat in record time."

It was the fifth unbeaten season for Auriemma and UConn and the first time the Huskies went 40-0, matching Baylor as the only schools to do so. The victory was also Connecticut's 46th straight dating back to last season's NCAA tournament title run. It's the third-longest streak in school history, well short of the NCAA record 90 straight they won.

The loss was Notre Dame's third in the title game in the past four years. Kayla McBride finished off her stellar career with 21 points to lead the Irish, who were looking for their first championship since 2001.

"Obviously we wanted to finish this season with a championship," said Irish freshman Taya Reimer,



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Connecticut All-American Breanna Stewart led the Huskies with 21 points.

who replaced Achonwa in the starting lineup. "Right now, it is hard to think about. It hurts a lot."

The former Big East rivals played an entertaining first half

in the highly anticipated matchup that women's basketball hoped could transcend the sport. The programs don't care for each other and the coaches added to the drama of the game with their verbal sparring on Monday.

But it was Auriemma who got the last word again.

Even with the loss, it was a record-setting season for the Irish. Notre Dame lost Skylar Diggins to graduation and changed conferences to the ACC. Neither mattered as they ran through their opponents, winning by an average of 25.6 points while taking both the conference regular-season and tournament championships.

The team played inspired basketball in the Final Four win over Maryland, when Notre Dame out-rebounded the Terps by a record margin. The Irish couldn't muster a similar effort against UConn.

"They got comfortable," McBride said. "They got into a rhythm, and it just went downhill from there."

Stewart, Dolson and Kiah Stokes dominated the interior. The Huskies out-rebounded the Irish 54-31

and held them to a season low in points.

After the teams traded shots early on, Stewart — who earned outstanding player of the tournament honors for the second straight season — fueled a 16-0 run as the Huskies, who have played stellar defense all season, held the Irish without a point for nearly five minutes. Stewart's layup with 11:02 left made it 22-8.

A minute later, Dolson made an acrobatic tip to Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis for another layup.

The Irish stayed in the first half by Michaela Mabrey and Jewell Loyd's hot shooting. Trailing 37-25 with 4:09 left in the first half, the pair sparked a 13-6 run with three three-pointers which brought the Irish faithful to their feet.

UConn led 45-38 at the half, shooting 57 percent from the field and having 16 assists on their 21 baskets.

The Huskies closed the door on an Irish comeback by scoring 18 of the first 22 points in the second half to put the game away. Stewart and Dolson had 10 points during the burst.

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SCOREBOARD

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College baseball

Tuesday's scores
EAST
 Chestnut Hill 21, Dickinson 15
 Dartmouth 2, Boston College 1
 Hamilton at Wake Forest
 Moravian 5, Drew 2
 Wake Forest (D.C.) 6, Post Comm. 0-3
South
 Akron 7, Pittsburg 5
 Barton 9-13, Chovon 5-6
 Berry 12, Covenant 8
 Carson-Newman 6, Trevecca Nazarene 4
 Cumberland 11-14, Murray 19-9
 Florida 9, NC Central 1
 Duke 9, Norfolk State 1
 Florida State 3, St. Augustine's 7
 Freed-Hardeman 7, Martin Methodist 4
 Georgia G. Clemson 2
 Georgia Gwinnett 5, Cumberland 20
 High Tech 13, Georgia Southern 13
 Georgia Tech 6, Appalachian State 1
 Rice-Rhyne 3, Rider (Tenn.) 3
 Lincoln Memorial 14, Kentucky St. 7
 Middle Tennessee 7, Bryn Mawr 11
 Maryland 11, Georgia Mason 0
 Miami 10, Tennessee 4
 Mississippi 9, Memphis 11
 North Carolina 5, Kentucky 4
 North Olive 10-2, Wingate 1-4
 UNC-Charlotte 10, UNC-Asheville 1
 Notre Dame 6, Chicago St. 5
 Randolph-Macon 5, Mary Washington 3
 St. Catharines 1, Belmont 10, 11
 Tennessee 13, Tennessee Tech 5
 Tennessee 3, Lehigh 1
 Tuskegee 8, Spring Hill 1
 Virginia 3, Georgetown (Ky.) 1
 UNC-Greensboro 4, Wake Forest 2
 Virginia Tech 5, Indiana 2
 UNC-Asheville 9, James Madison 3
 VCU 11, Virginia Tech 6
 West Virginia Intermont 8, Emory & Henry 1
 Winston-Salem 4, Catawba 2

MIDWEST
 Doane 6, Peru 5-2
WEST
 Colorado-Austin 6, Schreiner 1
 Houston Simmons 8, Southwestern
 Houston 7, Texas St. 11
 Texas Baptist 7, Texas-Arlington 4
 Incarnate Word 14, Texas-Pan American 3
 McMurry 3-4, Angelo St. 2-6
 North Baylor 7, Texas Lutheran 3
 New Mexico 5, Stephen F. Austin 6
 Texas A&M Kingsville 7, Texas A&M-International 2
 Texas A&M Kingsville Baptist 1
 Texas Southern 5, Wiley 3
 Texas Tech 19, Abilene Christian 2
 UTSA 10, Texas A&M-CC 2
 W. Texas A&M 15, Wayland Baptist 6

MLS
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	3	0	9	7	4
DC United	2	1	7	6	5
Sporting KC	2	2	8	5	5
Chivas USA	2	2	6	6	6
Philadelphia	1	3	6	6	6
San Jose	1	3	6	6	6
D.C. England	1	3	4	2	8
Chicago	0	4	4	8	9
Montreal	0	3	2	5	9

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pts	GF	GA
FC Dallas	2	0	3	18	6
Real Salt Lake	2	0	3	18	6
Seattle	2	1	8	8	5
Vancouver	2	2	8	8	5
San Jose	2	2	8	8	5
San Francisco	1	2	7	9	8
Chicago USA	2	2	7	9	8
Los Angeles	1	2	4	2	2
Portland	0	2	3	4	2
Colorado	0	1	3	1	4

Notes: Three points for victory, one for a tie.
Saturday, April 5
 Montreal 2, New York 2, tie
 Philadelphia 1, Toronto 0
 Toronto FC 2, Columbus 0
Sunday, April 6
 Los Angeles 3, Chivas USA 0
Saturday's games
 Real Salt Lake at Philadelphia
 Colorado at Toronto FC
 Chicago USA at Montreal
 Houston at New England
 New York at D.C. United
 Toronto FC at Philadelphia
 Chivas USA at Portland
 Vancouver at Los Angeles
Sunday's game
 Vancouver at San Jose

College basketball

NCAA Women's tournament
National Championship
Tuesday, April 8
 UConn 79, Notre Dame 58

Most NCAA Women's championships
 Connecticut — 9
 Tennessee — 8
 Baylor — 2
 Louisiana Tech — 2
 Southern Cal — 2
 St. Joseph's — 2
 Maryland — 1
 North Carolina — 1
 Notre Dame — 1
 Old Dominion — 1
 Texas A&M — 1
 Texas — 1
 Texas Tech — 1

NCAA Women's championship winning coaches
 Geno Auriemma, Connecticut, 9
 Pat Summitt, Tennessee, 8
 Kim Mulkey, Baylor, 2
 Linda Spurk, Southern Cal, 2
 Tara VanDiver, Stanford, 2
 Lynn Bomare, Louisiana Tech, 2
 Virginia Adams, 1
 Judy Cornett, Texas, 1
 Sondra Wood, Maryland, 1
 Nancy Lieke, North Carolina, 1
 Sonja Hoog, Louisiana Tech, 1
 Nancy Lieke, Notre Dame, 1
 Carolyn Peck, Purdue, 1
 Nancy Lieke, Texas Tech, 1
 Marianne Stanley, Old Dominion, 1

Women's Division I undefeated seasons Since the 1981-82 Season

Team	Season	W-L
North Carolina	2014	40-0
Baylor	2012	40-0
UConn	2009	39-0
UConn	2002	37-0
Tennessee	1998	39-0
UConn	1995	39-0
Texas	1958	35-0

NCAA Women's championship scores
 2014 — UConn 79, Notre Dame 58
 2013 — UConn 93, Louisville 60
 2012 — Baylor 80, Notre Dame 61
 2011 — Texas A&M 52, Stanford 47
 2010 — UConn 78, Louisville 44
 2009 — Tennessee 64, Stanford 48
 2008 — Tennessee 59, Rutgers 45
 2007 — Maryland 78, Duke 75
 2006 — UConn 74, Michigan State 62
 2005 — UConn 79, Tennessee 52
 2004 — UConn 73, Tennessee 68
 2003 — UConn 82, Oklahoma 70
 2002 — Notre Dame 68, Purdue 66
 2001 — UConn 71, Tennessee 52
 1999 — Purdue 62, Duke 45
 1998 — Tennessee 55, Louisiana Tech 35
 1997 — Tennessee 68, Old Dominion 59
 1996 — Tennessee 83, Georgia 65
 1995 — Tennessee 64, Kentucky 42
 1994 — North Carolina 60, Virginia 57
 1993 — Texas Tech 84, Ohio State 82
 1992 — Stanford 78, Western Kentucky 62
 1991 — Tennessee 70, Virginia 67
 1990 — Stanford 88, Auburn 81
 1989 — Tennessee 76, Auburn 60
 1988 — Louisiana Tech 68, Auburn 54
 1987 — Tennessee 67, Louisiana Tech 67
 1986 — Texas 97, Southern Cal 81
 1985 — Old Dominion 69, Virginia 62
 1984 — Southern Cal 72, Tennessee 61
 1983 — Southern Cal 69, Louisiana Tech 67
 1982 — Louisiana Tech 76, Cheney 62

NCAA Women's Final Four Most Outstanding Players
 2013 — Breanna Stewart, Connecticut
 2012 — Brittney Griner, Baylor
 2011 — Danielle Adams, Texas A&M
 2010 — Maya Moore, Connecticut
 2009 — Tina Charles, Virginia Tech
 2008 — Candace Parker, Tennessee
 2007 — Candace Parker, Tennessee
 2006 — Laura Harper, Maryland
 2005 — Sophia Young, Baylor
 2004 — Diana Taurasi, Connecticut
 2003 — Diana Taurasi, Connecticut
 2002 — Swin Cash, Connecticut
 2001 — Chamique Holdstock, Tennessee
 2000 — Shea Ralph, Notre Dame
 1999 — Kara Winks, Virginia Tech
 1998 — Ukaari Griffin, Purdue
 1997 — Chamique Holdstock, Tennessee

NCAA Women's Final Four Most Outstanding Players
 1996 — Chamique Holdstock, Tennessee
 1995 — Rebecca Loo, Connecticut
 1994 — Charlotte Smith, North Carolina
 1993 — Sheryl Swoopes, Texas Tech
 1992 — Molly Goodenbour, Stanford
 1991 — Dawn Staley, South Carolina
 1990 — Jennifer Azzi, Stanford
 1989 — Bridgette Gordon, Tennessee
 1988 — Eric Westbrooks, Louisiana Tech
 1987 — Tonya Edwards, Tennessee
 1986 — Clarissa Davis, Texas
 1985 — Tracy Clark, Old Dominion
 1984 — Cheryl Miller, Southern Cal
 1983 — Cheryl Miller, Southern Cal
 1982 — Janice Lawrence, Louisiana Tech

Tennis

U.S. Men's Jay Court Championships
Tuesday
At River Oaks Country Club
Houston, Texas
Purse: \$539,730 (W250)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

First Round
 Michael Russell, United States, def. Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, 6-3, 7-6 (2), 6-4
 Donald Young, United States, def. Ryan Harrison, United States, 6-0, 6-1
 Benjamin Becker, Germany, def. Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo, Spain, 6-4, 6-4
 Lleyton Hewitt (7), Australia, def. Peter Polansky, Canada, 6-3, 6-4
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Demir Oluk, United States, 7-5, 7-6 (4)
 Feliciano Lopez (5), Spain, def. Robby Ginepri, United States, 7-5, 6-2

First Round
 Matthew Elden and Sam Groth, Australia, def. Ken and Neil Skupski, Britain, 6-4, 7-6 (2)
 Bob and Mike Bryan (1), United States, def. Nicholas Monroe and Donald Young, United States, 6-4, 6-4

Claro Open
At Club Campestre de Rancho Bogota, Bogota, Colombia
Purse: \$220,000 (W100)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

First Round
 Lara Arruabarrena, Spain, def. Maria Fernanda Herranz Gonzalez, Colombia, 6-1, 6-0
 Ana-Camela Begu, Romania, def. Ana Schmiedlova (4), Slovakia, 6-3, 6-1
 Nikola Kovinic, Montenegro, def. Nicole Gibbs, United States, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0
 Igor Andjic, Argentina, def. Alia Kudryavtseva, Russia, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3
 Romina Oprandi, Switzerland, def. Tatjana Leticia, Germany, 6-2, 7-6 (4)
 Mariana Duque-Marinic, Colombia, def. Sofia Stephens, United States, 6-3, 6-2
 Pizzi Shapatova, Germany, def. Dinah Pfizenmaier, Germany, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2
 Yuliana Lizarazo, Colombia, def. Sara Gomboc, Hungary, 6-3, 6-2
 Caroline Garcia (5), France, def. Florencia Molinero, Argentina, 6-3, 6-2
 Paula Ormaechea (7), Argentina, def. Patricia Mayr-Achleitner, Austria, 7-5, 6-1

Doubles
 Sharon Fichman, Canada, and Alexander Reid, Canada, def. Alessia Chiodini and Kristina Mladenovic, France, 6-0, 7-6 (4)
 Hsieh Cheng-Yu, United States, and Elitsa Kostounova, Bulgaria, def. Jelena Jankovic, Serbia, and Ekaterina Makarovic, Serbia, 1-6, 6-3, 10-6
 Jason Kubler, United States, and Chanelle Scheepers (1), South Africa, def. Jason Kubler, United States, and Paulina Pereira Garcia, Colombia, 1-6, 7-5, 10-5

Grand Prix Hassan II
At Complexe Sportif Al Amal Casablanca, Morocco
Purse: \$665,000 (W200)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

First Round
 Roberto Carballes Baena, Spain, def. David Goffin, Belgium, 6-3, 6-5
 Albert Ramos, Spain, def. Lamine Ouassani, Morocco, 6-3, 6-4
 Filip Peliwo, Canada, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 6-2, 6-4
 Victor Hanscu, Romania, def. Hicham Khaldouj, Morocco, 7-6 (3), 6-4
 Federico Corsetti, Argentina, def. Gilles Simon, France, 6-4, 6-4

First Round
 Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain, and Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Ayoub Chakrouni and Younes Rachdi, Morocco, 6-1, 4-6, 10-8
Doubles
 Oliver Marach, Austria, and Florin Mergea, Romania, def. Mikhail Kukushkin and Aleksandr Nedovesov, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-4
 Carlos Berlocq and Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, def. Lamine Ouahab and Mehdi Elmi, Morocco, 6-3, 6-6

PGA Tour statistics
Through April 6
Scoring Average
 1. Sergio Garcia, 67.9
 2. Graeme McDowell, 69.533
 3. Matt Every, 69.541
 4. Harris English, 69.610
 5. Dustin Johnson, 69.616
 6. Will Max, 69.625
 7. Zach Johnson, 69.730
 8. Justin Thomas, 69.740
 9. Kevin Na, 69.872
 10. Matsuyama, 69.877

Driving Distance
 1. Bubba Watson, 317.7
 2. Dustin Johnson, 310.8
 3. Scott Piercy, 307.0
 4. Nicolas Colson, 306.9
 5. Lucas Glover, 306.7
 6. Zach Johnson, 306.730
 7. Justin Thomas, 306.740
 8. Will Max, 306.750
 9. Matt Every, 306.760
 10. Graham Delaet, 303.7

Driving Accuracy Percentage
 1. David Toms, 76.2%
 2. Tim Clark, 75.7%
 3. Justin Hoge, 72.6%
 4. Zach Johnson, 72.3%
 5. Heath Slocum, 72.2%
 6. Matt Every, 71.9%
 7. Will Max, 71.9%
 8. Paul Goydos, 70.0%
 9. John Merrick, 69.97%
 10. 2 tied with 69.97%

Greens in Regulation Percentage
 1. Harris English, 73.0%
 2. Chad Campbell, 72.4%
 3. (tie), Bob Woodward, 72.4%
 4. Justin Hoge, 72.2%
 5. Justin Hicks, 72.1%
 6. Graham Delaet, 71.5%
 7. Gary Woodland, 71.4%
 8. Charles Howell II, 71.3%
 9. Ryan Moore, 71.2%
 10. David Toms, 70.1%

Total Putting
 1. Derek Ernst, 7.2
 2. Gary Woodland, 7.8
 3. Kevin Stadler, 8.1
 4. Billy Horschel, 8.6
 5. Hudson Swaney, 8.9
 6. Lucas Glover, 9.6
 7. (tie), Martin Laird and Russell Henley, 9.9
 8. Bob Woodward, 10.1
 9. Ryan Palmer, 10.4

Strokes Gained - Putting
 1. Graeme McDowell, 1.189
 2. Jimmy Walker, 1.008
 3. Freddie Jacobson, 968.4
 4. Matt Every, 912.9
 5. Jason Kokrak, 6.9
 6. Greg Chalmers, 9.18
 7. Brendon Todd, 9.35
 8. Will Max, 9.35
 9. Matt Every, 9.35
 10. Will Mackenzie, 651.1

Putting Average
 1. Dustin Johnson, 4.50
 2. Jimmy Walker, 4.76
 3. (tie), Matt Every and Harris English, 4.49
 4. (tie), Ryan Palmer and Webb Simpson, 4.29
 5. Hideki Matsuyama, 4.27
 6. Zach Johnson, 4.25
 7. Kevin Stadler, 4.24

María Irigoyen (3), Argentina, def. Florencia Molinero, Argentina, and Romina Oprandi, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-4
 Lourdes Dominguez Lino, Spain, and Arantza Parra, Spain, 6-4, 6-4
 Marina Melnikova, Russia, and Sofia Shapatova, Georgia, 4-6, 7-5, 10-4

BNP Paribas Katowice Open
Tuesday
At Spaladium Sportowe Katowice, Katowice, Poland
Purse: \$250,000 (W100)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles
First Round
 Roberta Vinci (2), Italy, def. Ksenia Pavluk, Russia, 6-3, 6-2
 Tsvetana Pironkova (6), Bulgaria, def. Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1
 Agnieszka Radwanska (1), Poland, def. Kristyna Pliskova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2
 Kristina Kukenova, Slovakia, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 5-1, 6-1
 Klara Koulikova (5), Czech Republic, def. Magda Linette, Poland, 6-4, 6-3
 Silvia Soler-Espinoza, Spain, def. Mikaela Ivanovic, Serbia, 6-2, 6-1
 Alice Corbett (4), France, def. Vesna Dolonc, Serbia, 6-3, 6-2
 Veronika Kucukova (6), Austria, def. Magdalena Frsch, Poland, 6-3, 6-1

Doubles
 1. Victoria Linderoth, Italy, def. Vera Dushevina, Russia, 6-0, 6-2
 2. Victoria Linderoth, Italy, def. Vera Dushevina, Russia, 6-0, 6-2

First Round
 Eva Hrdinova and Kristyna Pliskova, Czech Republic, def. Gabriela Garza, Germany, and Petra Martic, Croatia, 6-4, 7-6 (4)
 Katarzyna Piter and Alicja Rosolska, Poland, def. Veronika Kaphay, Ukraine, and Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-2, 6-1

Grand Prix Hassan II
At Complexe Sportif Al Amal Casablanca, Morocco
Purse: \$665,000 (W200)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

First Round
 Roberto Carballes Baena, Spain, def. David Goffin, Belgium, 6-3, 6-5
 Albert Ramos, Spain, def. Lamine Ouassani, Morocco, 6-3, 6-4
 Filip Peliwo, Canada, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 6-2, 6-4
 Victor Hanscu, Romania, def. Hicham Khaldouj, Morocco, 7-6 (3), 6-4
 Federico Corsetti, Argentina, def. Gilles Simon, France, 6-4, 6-4

First Round
 Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain, and Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Ayoub Chakrouni and Younes Rachdi, Morocco, 6-1, 4-6, 10-8
Doubles
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 3. (tie), Matt Every and Harris English, 4.49
 4. (tie), Ryan Palmer and Webb Simpson, 4.29
 5. Hideki Matsuyama, 4.27
 6. Zach Johnson, 4.25
 7. Kevin Stadler, 4.24

PGA Tour FedEx Cup leaders
Through April 6
Rank Player
 1. Ryan Walker 566
 2. Patrick Reed 143
 3. Dustin Johnson 130
 4. Harris English 125
 5. Bubba Watson 1240
 6. Matt Every 994
 7. Zach Johnson 931
 8. Matt Every 914
 9. Webb Simpson 901
 10. Ryan Moore 902

Money List
 1. Patrick Reed \$3,023,091
 2. Dustin Johnson \$2,346,250
 3. Dustin Johnson 1,253
 4. Harris English 1,253
 5. Bubba Watson 1,240
 6. Matt Every 994
 7. Zach Johnson 931
 8. Matt Every 914
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 10. Ryan Moore 902

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 6. Matt Every 994
 7. Zach Johnson 931
 8. Matt Every 914
 9. Webb Simpson 901
 10. Ryan Moore 902

Deals

Tuesday's transactions
BASEBALL
American League
 Cleveland Indians assigned RHP Frank Herrington outright to Columbus (LHP)
MINNESOTA TWINS — Options INF Eduardo Nunez to Rochester (LHP)
NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed RHP David Robertson on the 15-day DL, re-called RHP Josh Winder to the roster, recalled Cabrera from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (LHP)
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Placed LHP Matt Moore on the 15-day DL, re-called Jeff Beaubien from Durham (LHP)

CINCINNATI REDS — Reinstated RHP Jonathan Bronson from the 15-day DL, placed RHP Taylor to the 15-day DL
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Placed C AJ Ellis on the 15-day DL, re-called to Albuquerque, recalled C Tim Federowicz from Albuquerque (RHP)

FOOTBALL
NFL — Suspended Washington DL Brandon Meeks four games for violating the league's substance abuse policy.
ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed S Dwight Gooden from the 15-day DL
BUFFALO BILLS — Signed DL Jarvis Wynn

CHICAGO BEARS — Agreed to terms with LSG Chad Bernal and TE Matthew Thomas. Bears will pay \$1 million to waive them from Washington.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Re-signed WR Dane Sanzenbacher
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Signed WR Lester Smith from the 15-day DL
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Signed S Blake Countess from the 15-day DL

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
BUFFALO SABRES — Recalled D Mark Pysyk and G Andrew Makarov from Rochester (AHL), recalled F Luke Gahan to Rochester
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Signed F Trevor Lewis to a two-year contract extension.
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled F Carter Ashton from the AHL, recalled D Drew MacIntyre from Toronto (AHL)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Fired president and general manager Mike Gillis.
FC DALLAS — Loaned F Jonathan Toews to Arsenal (Premier League)
PHILADELPHIA UNIONS — Terminated the contract of F Luke Gahan (AHL)

COLLEGE
NORTHEAST CONFERENCE — Announced that it will be replaced by the Atlantic Coast Conference as a member in the sport of women's basketball.
WESTERN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION — Named Bill Robertson commissioner.

APALACHIAN STATE — Named Jimmie Johnson as head coach.
IOWA — Announced basketball's Ky Foye as the new head coach.
MONTANA TECH — Named Carly Van Dyke women's basketball coach.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE — Announced that it will be replaced by the Atlantic Coast Conference as a member in the sport of women's basketball coach and signed her a seven-year contract.

College hockey
NCAA Division I tournament
NORTHEAST REGIONAL
At Worcester, Mass.
First Round
 Boston College 3, Colgate 0
Saturday, March

NHL

Roundup

Ovechkin's 50th goal caps Capitals

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Alex Ovechkin became the 11th player in NHL history to score 50 or more goals in a season five times, and the Washington Capitals kept their slim playoff hopes alive by beating the slumping St. Louis Blues 4-1 on Tuesday night.

Ovechkin, who added two assists, beat Ryan Miller with a one-timer from the left circle at 17:54 of the first period for his 50th goal overall and his third on the power play, both league highs. It is Ovechkin's first 50-goal campaign since 2009-10, when he scored 50. His single-season high is 65 in the 2007-08 season.

Nicklas Backstrom scored twice and Mikhail Grabovski added another goal for the Capitals, who have 85 points and are still on the outside of the Eastern Conference playoff picture looking in with three games remaining.

Maxim Lapierre had the only goal for St. Louis, which has lost a season-high three straight.

Flyers 5, Panthers 2: Claude Giroux scored two goals and visiting Philadelphia clinched a playoff berth by beating Florida.

Tye McGinn, Sean Couturier and Vincent Lecavalier also scored for the Flyers and Steve Mason made 38 saves. The Flyers won their second consecutive game after losing the four previous games.

Lightning 3, Maple Leafs 0: Ondrej Palat had two goals. Anders Lindback came off the bench to make 25 saves, and host Tampa Bay ended Toronto's playoff hopes.

Tampa Bay goalie Ben Bishop led with 14-17 remaining in the first round by an undisclosed upper-body injury. He was hurt while lunging to his left and landing on his side while attempting to glove the puck. Lindback replaced Bishop, who is 37-14-7 this season for the playoff-bound Lightning.

Rangers 4, Hurricanes 1: Brad Richards scored two power-play goals, and playoff-bound New York improved its chances for home-ice advantage in the first round with a victory over visiting Carolina.

Richards scored in the first period to tie it and then stretched New York's lead to two goals in the second period with his 20th of the season — the 10th time he has reached the mark in the NHL. Martin St. Louis had his best game with the Rangers with three assists, and Benoit Pouliot and Derek Stepan also scored.

Red Wings 4, Sabres 2: Darren Helm scored the go-ahead goal 3:33 into the third period by hitting Detroit closer to clinching a playoff berth with a win over Buffalo.

Brendan Smith, David Legwand and Pavel Datsyuk, upon an empty net, also scored for the Red Wings, and Jimmy Howard made 25 saves. Detroit moved within a point of securing one of the Eastern Conference's two wild-card playoff spots, and extending its run of postseason berths to 23 straight seasons.

Senators 4, Islanders 1: Jason Spezza scored twice and Ales Hensky added an insurance goal as visiting Ottawa topped New York.

Craig Anderson made 45 saves for the Senators, who will still miss the playoffs for the first time since 2011 and just the third time since 1996. They were making their first appearance this season at Nassau Coliseum, and the Islanders won the previous two meetings in Ottawa.

Blue Jackets 4, Coyotes 3 (OT): Ryan Johansen took a stretch pass from James Wisniewski and scored on a wrist shot at 3:33 of overtime to lead host Columbus over Phoenix, tying a franchise record for wins.

Sergei Bobrovsky had 29 saves, Blake Comeau, Boone Jenner and Mark Letestu also had goals and Artem Anisimov added two assists for the Blue Jackets. It was their 41st victory to match their most in their 13 seasons.

Wild 4, Bruins 3 (SO): Mikko Koivu scored and Ilya Bryzgalov denied all three shots in the shootout, lifting host Minnesota over Boston and clinching a wild-card spot in the Western Conference playoffs.

When Bryzgalov stopped Brad Marchand's try with his pad to end it, he pumped his arms as he skated out of the crease to celebrate with his teammates. The Wild will be the seventh seed in the division winner with the fewest points.

Stars 3, Predators 2 (SO): Tyler Seguin scored in the fourth round of a shootout and the playoff-chasing Dallas eliminated visiting Nashville from postseason contention.

Seguin, who had been 1-for-6 in shootout chances, scored the winner after Predators center Matt Cullen was denied. Dallas holds the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference with 89 points.

Avalanche 4, Oilers 1: Erik Johnson had a goal and an assist and visiting Colorado earned a victory over Edmonton.

Tyul Stastny, Jamie McGinn and Paul Barrie also scored for the Avalanche, who have gone 7-0-1 in their past eight games. The win gave Colorado a four-point cushion over idle Chicago for second place in the Central Division and two points up on San Jose for third in the Western Conference.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
z-Boston	79	53	18	8	14	254	171	199
y-Montreal	79	45	27	7	97	212	195	199
o-New York	79	45	27	8	92	212	211	211

Metropolitan Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
y-Pittsburgh	79	50	24	5	105	240	191	191
o-N.Y. Rangers	80	44	21	8	93	216	191	191
x-Philadelphia	79	41	29	9	91	225	227	227

Wild Card		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	79	38	27	14	90	215	224	224
Columbus	79	41	31	7	89	223	211	211

Washington		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	79	36	30	13	85	226	237	237
Toronto	79	34	29	16	84	191	201	201
Toronto	80	38	34	8	84	229	251	251
Ozera	80	44	24	8	93	216	191	191
Carolina	79	34	34	11	79	197	219	219
N.Y. Islanders	80	37	37	11	81	216	262	262
Florida	80	39	44	8	64	199	233	233
Buffalo	79	21	49	9	51	252	238	238

Western Conference

Central Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-St. Louis	79	52	20	7	109	243	210	210
x-Columbus	79	49	19	10	105	259	207	207

Pacific Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Anaheim	79	49	21	9	110	254	202	202
x-San Jose	79	49	21	9	107	239	192	192
x-Los Angeles	79	45	28	6	96	197	197	197

Wild Card		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Minnesota	80	42	26	12	96	200	166	166
Dallas	79	39	29	11	89	230	223	223

Phoenix <th>GP</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>OT</th> <th>Pts</th> <th>GF</th> <th>GA</th>		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	79	36	28	15	87	212	225	225
Vancouver	79	35	33	11	81	187	213	213
Winnipeg	79	35	33	11	80	223	223	223
Calgary	79	34	38	7	80	201	228	228
Edmonton	80	38	39	6	85	265	265	265

Note: Top three teams from each division and the next two teams from each conference with the most points qualify for the playoffs. Two points are awarded for one win, one point for overtime loss.

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z clinched conference

Monday's games
New Jersey at Anaheim
Minnesota 1, Winnipeg 0
Anaheim 3, Vancouver 2

Tuesday's games
Minnesota 4, Boston 3 SO
Dallas 3, Nashville 1
Detroit 4, Buffalo 2
Tampa Bay 3, Toronto 0

Wednesday's games
Montreal at Chicago
Detroit at Pittsburgh
Dallas at Detroit
Los Angeles at Calgary

Thursday's games
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers
Washington at Carolina
N.Y. Islanders at Montreal
New Jersey at Philadelphia
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay

Friday's games
Chicago at Vancouver
Carolina at Detroit
Columbus at Tampa Bay
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey
Los Angeles at Edmonton
Colorado at San Jose

Saturday's games
Detroit 1, Buffalo 1
Buffalo 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Sunday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Monday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Tuesday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Wednesday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Thursday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Friday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Saturday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Sunday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Monday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Tuesday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1

Wednesday's games
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1
Detroit 1, Detroit 1



Washington's Alex Ovechkin, second from right, is congratulated by teammates Jason Chimera (25), John Carlson (74) and Mike Green after he scored his 50th goal of the season Tuesday in St. Louis.

Rangers 4, Hurricanes 1

Carolina 1, Rangers 4
First Period—1, Carolina, Dwyer (8:16).
Second Period—2, N.Y. Rangers, Richards 19 (St. Louis, Stepan), 15:44 (pp).

Third Period—3, N.Y. Rangers, Pouliot 14 (Zuccarelli, Stralman), 50. 4, N.Y. Rangers, Richards 20 (Girardi, St. Louis), 13:36 (pp).

Fourth Period—0, N.Y. Rangers, Stepan 17 (St. Louis, Stralman), 10:11-17-28. Shots on Goal—Carolina 10-11-17-28. N.Y. Rangers 2-5.

Power-play opportunities—Carolina 0 of 0; N.Y. Rangers 2 of 5.
Goalsies—Carolina, Ward 9-12-6 (36 shots-32 saves). N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 32-24-5 (28-24). T—2:15.

Blue Jackets 4, Coyotes 3 (OT)

Phoenix 1, Columbus 1, Blue Jackets 4
First Period—1, Columbus, Jenner 15 (Horton, Johansen), 8:15. Phoenix, Erat 3 (Vesota, Chupchura), 15:32. 3, Phoenix, Doan 21 (Stone, Vandle), 17:53.

Second Period—2, Columbus, Letestu 10 (Anisimov), 5:25.
Third Period—5, Columbus, Coe 5 (Mackenzie, Anisimov), 13:40. 6, Phoenix, Ekman-Larsson 15 (Reibeiro, Boudreau), 19:45.

Overtime—7, Columbus, Johansen 32 (Wiewiarski), 3-1. Columbus, Ovechkin 10 of 2; Columbus 0 of 1.

Goalsies—Phoenix, Greiss 9-9-5 (30 shots-26 saves). Columbus, Bobrovsky 30-25-5 (28-24). T—2:36.

Flyers 5, Panthers 2 (SO)

Florida 1, Philadelphia 1, Flyers 5
First Period—1, Philadelphia, Ovechkin 12 (Leclair, 20 Hall), 2:02. 2, Philadelphia, Groulx 26 (Grossman, L'Eschne), 6:29. 3, Philadelphia, Groulx 27 (Sreit, Hartnell), 8:50. 4, Philadelphia, Couturier 11 (Coburn, Beaulieu), 15:03.

Third Period—5, Florida, Gudbranson 3 (Ugshall, Trochick), 12:14. 6, Florida, Huberdeau 9 (Winchester, Thorpe), 5:38. 7, Philadelphia, McGinn 4 (Leclair, Hall), 15:40.

Shots on Goal—Philadelphia 12-12-3 (27 total). Florida 15-15-0.

Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 1 of 2; Florida 0 of 1.
Goalsies—Philadelphia, Mason 33-19-0 (40 shots-38 saves). Florida, Ellis 11-10 (28-28 saves). T—2:26.

Capitals 4, Blues 1

Washington 1, St. Louis 1
First Period—1, Washington, Ovechkin 5 (Carlson, Ward), 17:54 (pp).

Second Period—2, St. Louis, Lapierre 8 (Ott, Reaves), 2:39. 3, Washington, Groulx 27 (Sreit, Hartnell), 4:44. Washington, Backstrom 16 (Ovechkin, Orlov), 15:50.

Third Period—1, Washington, Backstrom 17 (Ovechkin, Carlson), 15:00 (pp).

Shots on Goal—Washington 7-13-3-22. St. Louis 9-11-9-29.

Power-play opportunities—Washington 1 of 2; St. Louis 0 of 1.
Goalsies—Washington, Holtby 22-15-3 (29 shots-28 saves). St. Louis, Miller 25-27 (42-22). T—2:26.

A—17,447 (19,150). T—2:26.

Lightning 3, Maple Leafs 0

Tampa Bay 0, Toronto 3
First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Palat 2 (Hedman, Guada), 5:19. 2, Tampa Bay, Palat 22 (Stamkos, Hedman), 15:45 (pp).

Third Period—3, Tampa Bay, Hedman 33 (18:47) (en).

Shots on Goal—Toronto 10-11-7-28. Tampa Bay 11-12-11-34.

Power-play opportunities—Toronto 0 of 3; Tampa Bay 1 of 1.
Goalsies—Toronto, Reimer 12-15-1 (33 shots-31 saves). Tampa Bay, Bishop 63-30, Lindback 6-12 (5:43 first, 25:25). A—18,896 (19,204). T—2:31.

Wild 4, Bruins 3 (SO)

Boston 2, Minnesota 3
First Period—1, Minnesota, Pomminville 28 (Kouzes, Christy), 1:08 (pp).

Second Period—2, Boston, Bergeron 30 (Smith, Pominville), 3:30 (pp). 3, Boston, Bergeron 39 (Marchand, Chabot), 11:50 (pp).

Third Period—0, Boston, Eriksson 9 (Campbell, Chara), 15:18 (pp).

Shots on Goal—Minnesota, Suter 8 (Pominville, Koivu), 18:55.

Shots on Goal—Boston 0; Bergeron NG, Suter NG, Marchand NG, Minnesota 1 (Parise NG, Koivu G, Pominville NG).

Shots on Goal—Boston 6-9-7-24. Minnesota 9-4-5-6-24.

Power-play opportunities—Boston 2 of 2; Minnesota 1 of 2.
Goalsies—Boston, Rask 35-16-6 (24 shots-21 saves). Minnesota, Giguere 12-8-28 (34). A—18,293 (17,954). T—2:44.

Stars 3, Predators 2 (SO)

Nashville 0, Dallas 1
First Period—1, Dallas, Goligoski 6 (Fiddler, Seewour), 2:23.

Second Period—2, Nashville, Bourque 8 (Smith, Weber), 1:22. 3, Dallas, Jaen 34 (Nichushkin, Dillon), 8:16.

Third Period—0, Nashville, Bourque 9 (Gaudet), 10:24.

Shots on Goal—Nashville 1 (Jankrnk NG, Carlson NG, Jost G, Cullen G), Dallas 2 (Jo, Benn NG, Ja, Benn NG, Fiddler G, Seewour NG).

Shots on Goal—Nashville 8-15-5-29. Dallas 11-11-7-30.

Power-play opportunities—Nashville 0 of 1; Dallas 2 of 2.
Goalsies—Dallas, Lethbridge 30-28-10 (30 shots-28 saves). Dallas, Lettich 32-20-10 (30 shots-28 saves). T—2:46.

A—16,219 (18,852). T—2:46.

Avalanche 4, Oilers 1

Colorado 0, Edmonton 4
First Period—1, Colorado, Stastny 23 (Lundqvist, Mitchell), 4:13. 2, Edmonton, Perron 28 (Gagner, Larsson), 16:58 (pp).

Second Period—2, Colorado, Stastny 34 (Nichushkin, Dillon), 8:16.

Third Period—0, Colorado, Barrie 12 (McGinn, O'Reilly), 7:34 (pp). 16,19,15, Colorado, Johnson 19 (MacKinnon, O'Reilly), 16:19.

Shots on Goal—Colorado 14-9-10-33. Edmonton 9-10-4-23.

Goalsies—Colorado, Giguere 11-6-0 (23 shots-28 saves). Edmonton, Scrivens 15-16-3 (32-29). A—16,839 (16,839). T—2:16.

SOCCER

Wambach: Players not behind coach's firing

By **BERNIE WILSON**
The Associated Press

CHULA VISTA, Calif. — Abby Wambach quickly dismissed any notion that players on the U.S. women's soccer team were behind the surprise firing of coach Tom Sermanni.

"Everybody out there who may think the players made this happen, none of it's true," Wambach said Tuesday after a spirited workout on a cloudless, 90-degree day, the team's first since Sermanni was fired Sunday after an exhibition victory against China in suburban Denver.

Wambach said it appeared that Sermanni's philosophy wasn't matching up with that of the U.S. Soccer Federation.

"That's not anyone's fault. That's the hard part," she said. "I wish he was a jerk in some ways because it would be easier. But that's just not the case. He's such a good guy. He treated us all with the utmost respect and we couldn't wish him nothing but the best of luck."

Sermanni addressed the team after he was fired, Wambach said.

"It takes a lot of courage to get up there and do what he did," said Wambach, a two-time Olympic gold medalist who was named the women's world player of the year by FIFA in 2012.

"The hard part is Tom is such an amazing guy and he is so classy and the way he handled himself even after being told he was being let go was maybe some of the best people experience I've ever seen," Wambach added. "He handled himself with the utmost respect, wished us the very best. He did the very best that he could. He's brought us along for these last 15 months to here. We love and care for him so much and we appreciate everything that has happened."

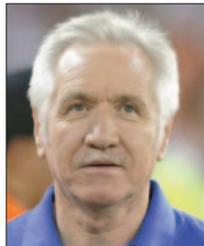
Wambach and goalkeeper Hope Solo said that if the players did have a role in Sermanni's firing, it was by not playing better during a disappointing seventh-place finish in the Algarve Cup in Portugal last month.

"We didn't play our best soccer in Portugal," Solo said. "We came in seventh place. That's not good enough for this team. At the end of the day, we failed Tom. We didn't put together a great tournament."

Wambach said U.S. Soccer Federation President Sunil Gulati does his due diligence, so firing Sermanni, who is Scottish, likely wasn't a hasty decision.

"Every coach that comes on has their own philosophy and stamp that they want to put on the game. For us, we're very American, attack-oriented, score goals until the 95th minute," she said. "That's how we are. I think that maybe the direction of the team wasn't going in the direction the federation had hoped, not only the Algarve result, but I think just in general."

Sermanni helped the U.S. to a 13-0-3 record last year, but the Americans went 1-2-1 at the Algarve Cup. The seventh-place finish included a 1-0 loss to Sweden and former U.S. coach Pia Sundhage.



ALEX BRANDON/AP

The U.S. Soccer Federation fired women's national team coach Tom Sermanni on Sunday after a 2-0 victory over China.

Fan threats leave Fred concerned

By **TALES AZZONI**
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Brazil striker Frederico Chaves Guedes, more commonly known as Fred, warns there could be "another tragedy" in Brazilian football if fan groups follow through with their threats against his club this week.

In a lengthy letter posted on his Facebook and Twitter accounts, Fred said he is concerned about what could happen to him and his teammates if Fluminense doesn't advance to the second round of the Brazilian Cup on Thursday.

He said a group of about 20 fans swarmed his car to threaten him as he left practice this weekend, complaining about the team's recent struggles and demanding a good result.

Fred, who will be a starter for Brazil at the World Cup, said he had to dangerously accelerate to escape and nearly caused an accident.

"After 'the message' this weekend, when a group of dropouts disguised as fans threatened the team's players, Brazilian football could be about to witness another foretold tragedy on Thursday if Fluminense fails to advance past Horizonte in the Brazilian Cup."

Horizonte, a minor club without any significant tradition in Brazil, won the first leg 3-1 and is a draw away from reaching the second round.

Fluminense was also eliminated by rival Vasco da Gama in the semifinals of the Rio de Janeiro state championship last week, a defeat that prompted team officials to fire the coach.

Fred said he felt angry after last weekend's incident and wondered whether his dedication to the club was worth it, but later blamed just a few fans from "professional" groups who have been at the root of stadium violence in Brazil for years.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

UMass' Gordon first openly gay D-I player

The Associated Press

AMHERST, Mass. — UMass guard Derrick Gordon has become the first openly gay player in Division I men's basketball.

Gordon made the announcement in interviews with ESPN and Outsports on Wednesday. Gordon said he gained confidence by seeing an NBA team sign Jason Collins, who became the league's first openly gay player when he joined the Brooklyn Nets this season.

"I want to be myself," Gordon said in the interview televised on ESPN. "I don't want to hide and be someone I'm not."

The sophomore was the Minutemen's fourth-leading scorer with 9.4 points per game last season, when UMass reached the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1998. A transfer from Western Kentucky, Gordon played at high school powerhouse St. Patrick in New Jersey.

In the Outsports interview, Gordon said he considered quitting basketball last fall and isolated himself from teammates because of teasing. Over the summer, he had "liked" a photo on Instagram of him and his then-boyfriend in front of a gay bar.

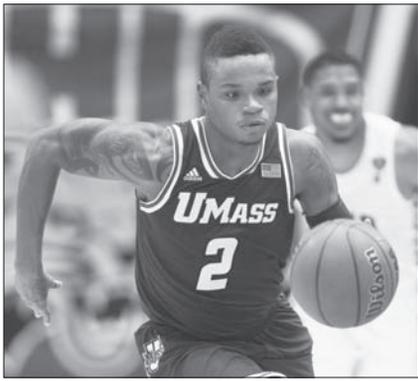
"I just wanted to run and hide somewhere," he said. "I used to go back to my room and I'd just cry."

Gordon was also inspired by spending time with several gay people in the world of sports in March, according to the Outsports article, and decided to come out to his family and then the Minutemen.

Once he opened up to his teammates, they were encouraging. In the ESPN interview, he recalled that they told him: "We're going to support you no matter what."

"I have the most profound respect for Derrick and the decision he has made to come out publicly," coach Derek Kellogg said in a statement. "He is a model student, a terrific competitor, but most importantly, he is a wonderful human being."

UMass' director of athletics John McCutcheon said in a statement that the department "is proud to have Derrick Gordon as a member of our athletic family and honor his courage and openness as a gay student-athlete."



Ty Wright/AP

Massachusetts guard Derrick Gordon announced in a televised interview on Wednesday with ESPN that he is gay. Gordon became the first openly gay player in Division I men's basketball.

Collins made a trailblazing announcement last April when he came out in an interview with Sports Illustrated. In February, he became the first openly gay male athlete in the four major North American pro sports leagues.

Pistorius refuses to look at victim's photo

PRETORIA, South Africa — Oscar Pistorius refused to look at a photo of his dead girlfriend's bloody head wounds while testifying at his murder trial Wednesday as the prosecutor urged the star athlete to "take responsibility" for killing her.

"It's time that you look at it," chief prosecutor Gerrie Nel said, setting the stage for a rigorous first day of cross-examination of Pistorius, the double-amputee Olympian charged with premeditated murder for shooting Reeva Steenkamp three times through a toilet door at his home.

"I remember," Pistorius said of Steenkamp's bloodied head, becoming distraught and then crying as he turned away from the gruesome image of the injuries he

inflicted that were displayed next to him in a packed courtroom in South Africa's capital.

Nel said Steenkamp's head "exploded" when it was struck by one of four hollow-point bullets that Pistorius fired through the door on Feb. 14, 2013 with his 9 mm pistol. The showing of the photograph on TV screens in the courtroom caused gasps among spectators, who included Steenkamp's mother, June. The police photo showed a side view of the dead model and reality TV star's head, with a mass of blood and human tissue on the back and upper parts. Her eyes were closed.

"I will not look at a picture where I'm tormented by what I saw and felt that night," Pistorius said. "As I picked Reeva up, my fingers touched her head. I remember. I don't have to look at a picture. It was there."

Pistorius, 27, says he shot Steenkamp in the pre-dawn hours on Valentine's Day — in the head, arm and hip — by mistake thinking she was a dangerous intruder behind the door in his bathroom about to come out and attack him. Prosecutors charge he killed the

29-year-old intentionally, and Nel aggressively questioned Pistorius for the first time.

"You killed her," Nel said. "You shot and killed her," and he asked Pistorius to say it. Pistorius would not, saying merely, "I did."

Pistorius faces a possible prison term of 25 years to life if convicted of premeditated murder.

Nel also showed a video, first broadcast by Sky News days before the trial started, of the celebrated athlete firing a gun at a watermelon at a shooting range. On the video, Pistorius can be heard saying the melon was "softer than brains" after it explodes when the bullet hits it, and calling the powerful .50-caliber handgun he was using a "zombie stopper."

Referring to the watermelon, Nel said to Pistorius: "You know the same happened to Reeva's head. It exploded."

After the dramatic start, prosecutor Nel also started to poke holes in details of Pistorius' version of the events of the fatal night. The champion runner said that his claim in a court document a year ago that he went out onto a balcony at his home before the shooting was incorrect. Pistorius said he went to the edge of the balcony but not outside. The discrepancy could be significant because Pistorius says he heard a noise in the bathroom that alerted him to a possible intruder, which would have been harder if he was out on the balcony.

IOC: Talk of moving Rio Games 'premature'

BLEIK, Turkey — With sports federations demanding a "Plan B" because of the chronic delays in Rio de Janeiro, the International Olympic Committee said Wednesday it was "premature" to speculate about taking the 2016 Games away from Brazil.

Each and other Olympic officials said the construction holdups and political paralysis have reached a critical point, requiring the IOC to take special measures to save the Games.

"It is about time for action," Bach said following an unprecedented public outpouring of criticism and complaints from international sports leaders about

the lack of progress in Rio.

Several sports federations asked about contingency plans for their venues and one — handball — asked if there was a backup for the games themselves if Rio won't be ready on time.

Asked whether there had been discussion of moving the Games out of Brazil, IOC spokesman Mark Adams stopped short of ruling it out.

"At this stage, that would be far too premature," he said. "We're not talking about Plan B. We're still talking about delivery of the Games."

O's Jones lashes out at fans who ran on field

NEW YORK — As two fans ran onto the field interrupting Tuesday's Orioles game against the New York Yankees were escorted off through the outfield fence at Yankee Stadium, Orioles center fielder Adam Jones had some choice words for them.

And after the game, Jones was just as vocal in expressing his disdain for fans who run onto the field, saying that they should be subject to harsher penalties.

"I think it's idiotic for people to run on the field, and I think the punishment needs to be a lot harsher, and they should let us have a shot to kick them with our metal spikes on because it's stupid," Jones said. "You look like an [idiot] when you run on the field."

In the bottom of the eighth inning of the Orioles' 14-5 win, two fans entered the field from the stands down the third-base line and ran around the outfield before being tackled by security. At one point, one of the fans hid behind Orioles shortstop Ryan Flaherty.

Jones didn't find the humor in the incident.

"We don't go to any other events," Jones said. "We don't go to other sporting events and do that to their jobs, but they come to ours and do that. I get it, you're drunk and you want to be on SportsCenter. Your [butt] is going to jail with a fine, and you might not be allowed to come back to the ballpark."

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MLB

AL roundup

Rangers, 5 double plays sink Red Sox

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Robinson Chirinos started a five-run third inning with his first homer of the season and the Texas Rangers won 10-7 as the Boston Red Sox hit into five double plays Tuesday night.

The Red Sox scored three runs in the ninth against Jostlin Soria on an RBI single by Jonny Gomes and a two-run double by David Ortiz, but Mike Napoli struck out to end the game.

Boston's five double plays were one fewer than the American League record for a nine-inning game shared by eight teams. The major league mark of seven was set by the San Francisco Giants in 1969.

All of them came against Martin Perez (1-0).

Texas won for the second time in five games as every starter reached base by the fourth inning. Boston lost its fourth game in the last five.

Orioles 14, Yankees 5: Delmon Young, Adam Jones and Matt Wieters homered as visiting Baltimore teed off for 20 hits, battering New York.

Young and Wieters each drove in three runs, and Jones delivered one of the Orioles' four doubles at a half-empty Yankee Stadium.

Rays 1, Royals 0: James Loney hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning to lift visiting Tampa Bay over Kansas City.

Rays starter Chris Archer wriggled out of two bases-loaded jams and went seven innings in an impressive pitchers' duel between top young arms. Royals rookie Yorlano Ventura dazzled in his season debut, holding Tampa Bay to two hits in six shut-out innings.

Mariners 5, Angels 3: Corey Hart hit a three-run homer and a solo shot, sending Seattle past Los Angeles in its home opener.

The Mariners became the final major league team to open at home and improved to 4-0 against the Angels this season. Before the game, a sold-out crowd at Safeco Field gave Russell Wilson, Pete Carroll and other members of the Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks a raucous ovation.

Blue Jays 5, Astros 2: Melky Cabrera homered for the fourth straight game. Jose Bautista also went deep and host Toronto handed Houston its fifth loss in six games. Cabrera hit a two-run shot off reliever Kevin Chapman in the seventh, connecting on an 0-2 pitch. Cabrera has hit more home runs in eight games this season than he did in 88 last year, when he missed time due to leg injuries before having a benign tumor removed from his spine on Aug. 30.

Interleague

Indians 8, Padres 6: David Murphy hit a three-run homer and had four RBIs as host Cleveland took advantage of outdoor batting practice and San Diego's sloppiness in their delayed interleague series opener.

Murphy's shot in the fourth inning off Tyson Ross (0-2) gave the Indians a 6-2 lead. He added an RBI double in the sixth and a 6-for-8 with five RBIs in his past two games.



CHRIS SZAOOLA/AP

Milwaukee's Ryan Braun hits a solo home run in front of Philadelphia catcher Carlos Ruiz during Tuesday's game in Philadelphia.

NL roundup

Braun homers three times

Brewers slugger drives in seven runs in rout of Phillies

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ryan Braun hit three home runs and tied a franchise record with seven RBIs to lead the Milwaukee Brewers over Philadelphia 10-4 Tuesday, spoiling the Phillies' home opener.

Coming off a three-game sweep of the World Series champion Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park, the Brewers won their fourth straight game and improved to 5-2.

Kyle Lohse (1-1) allowed three runs and seven hits, walking five.

Braun connected twice off Kyle Kendrick (0-1), snapping the longest homerless drought of his career. The 2011 NL MVP came in with only three singles in 20 at-bats this season.

But Braun, who is bothered by a right thumb injury, felt just fine, as usual, in Philadelphia. He has 10 homers and 21 RBIs in 20 career games at Citizens Bank Park.

Giants 7, Diamondbacks 3: Michael Morse hit a two-run single to back Tim Hudson as each made memorable home debuts with their new team, and Brandon Belt hit a two-run homer for host San Francisco.

Hudson (2-0) shut down the D-backs

for the second time in seven days with an eight-inning gem in his first outing at AT&T Park since he agreed to a \$23 million, two-year contract in November.

Nationals 5, Marlins 0: Gio Gonzalez threw six crisp innings to lead host Washington.

Gonzalez allowed three singles and two walks. He allowed one baserunner to get as far as second, and struck out five hitters. He retired his last 10 batters and is 2-0 with a 0.75 ERA.

Mets 4, Braves 0: Bartolo Colon combined with two relievers on an eight-inning, Ruben Tejada drove in two runs with two hits and visiting New York beat Atlanta.

Jose Valverde loaded the bases in the ninth before Jason Heyward flied to the warning track in center field to end it.

Cardinals 7, Reds 5: Matt Holliday hit a go-ahead two-run double in the sixth inning that glanced off right fielder Jay Bruce's glove on the warning track and host St. Louis beat Cincinnati.

Yadier Molina homered and Peter Bourjos had three hits and an RBI to help the Cardinals clinch their 26th series win to go with three losses and two splits since 2003 against Cincinnati.

Pirates 7, Cubs 6: Pedro Alvarez had two hits and two RBIs and visiting Pittsburgh overcame two home runs by Starlin Castro.

Russell Martin drove in the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly in the eighth inning for Pittsburgh and Jason Grilli closed with a perfect ninth.

Interleague

Dodgers 3, Tigers 2 (10): Carl Crawford hit an RBI double in the 10th inning, lifting host Los Angeles over Detroit.

The Tigers were down to their final out in the ninth when Victor Martinez got Max Scherzer off the hook with an RBI single against Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen — who had just struck out two-time AL MVP Miguel Cabrera — to make it 2-2. Ian Kinsler ignited the rally with a leadoff double.

White Sox 15, Rockies 3: Jose Abreu and Avisail Garcia each hit two of visiting Chicago's six homers.

Jose Quintana (1-0) pitched seven sharp innings, and Tyler Flowers and Alexei Ramirez also went deep for the first time this season. The White Sox had six total home runs before the fireworks in this one at hitter-friendly Coors Field.

MASTERS

Scott out to defend title

Aussie says he's 'at the highest level' for Augusta

By PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Adam Scott is relishing every part of being Masters champion.

The drive up Magnolia Lane. A couple of practice rounds with his dad. Wearing the green jacket. And, certainly, the champions dinner Tuesday night.

But before anyone gets worked up about having to eat “bugs,” no worries — that’s just Aussie-speak for a type of lobster.

Scott went with surf-and-turf off the barbie for his Down Under-themed menu, so he didn’t expect too many complaints.

“I think they are going to be pretty happy with what I serve up,” he said with a sly smile, particularly the wine.”

A year later, Scott is back at the scene of his greatest triumph, a thrilling playoff victory over Angel Cabrera

that gave the 33-year-old Australian his first major championship. The breakthrough, after so many close calls and missed chances, has propelled him to the greatest run of his career, including top-five finishes at both the U.S. Open and British Open.

Scott knows he has the game to add another major title or two to his résumé. He’s eager to take

advantage of it. “I’m at the highest level I’ve ever been at,” Scott said. “My window of opportunity, I really think, is right now, and I don’t know when it will close. So I just have to keep going as hard as I can right now.”

From the back of the room, his parents, Phil and Pam Scott, looked on proudly. After Adam was done with his interview session, they joined him on the podium for a family photo.

Phil Scott is pleased with the way his son has dealt with his increased fame.

“You can have respect for everything, from the game to the course to you guys,” the father told a small group of reporters. “You’ve got a choice to do it nicely or not. If you take the choice to do it nicely, I think you will have a better time.”

Phil Scott, who once coached his son, got a chance to join him on the course for practice rounds Friday and Sunday. It was the thrill of a lifetime for both of them.

The elder Scott said he probably shot in the low 80s, though neither of them took the round too seriously. Instead, they relived some of the moments from Adam’s victory a year ago, from the clutch birdie putt on the 72nd

hole that led the golfer to shoot “C’mon, Aussie!” to the 12-hole on the second playoff hole that gave him the green jacket.

“My dad’s been coming here for all these years I’ve been playing, so it was nice for him to stand in the middle of the fairway rather than out on the edge,” Scott said. “I think he also developed a pretty good appreciation for how good some of the guys are out here, chipping and putting around these greens.”

Not long after Scott finished off Cabrera down at the 10th hole, the winner began thinking of what it would mean to his life. Unlike so many first-time winners who are caught off guard by their newfound fame, he had a keen appreciation for how much things would change.

Scott learned to manage his time better, dealing with his increased obligations while making sure it didn’t affect the hours he needed to spend at the practice range. In addition, he eagerly relished the perks that came with being a Masters champion.

“After winning this tournament last year and everyone asking me what the best thing about it was, I always felt like there would be things in the future that would be great about coming back here for the rest of my life,” Scott said. “I’ve got lots of those memories to look forward to. That’s why this place is just so unique.”

With Tiger Woods sidelined by injury, Scott has a chance to move



Adam Scott catches a golf ball from his caddy on the driving range during a practice round Tuesday in Augusta, Ga.

MATT SLOCUM/AP

‘My window of opportunity, I really think, is right now, and I don’t know when it will close.’

Adam Scott
2013 Masters champ

to No. 1 for the first time in his career. He would take over the top spot by finishing no worse than a tie for third.

Of course, he’s aiming to win another Masters, which would make him just the fourth player to capture back-to-back titles. The other ones are to die: Jack Nicklaus (1965-66), Nick Faldo (1989-90) and Woods (2001-02).

“I want to really get my head

into playing well this week, because I think I’m in good form,” Scott said.

If he does win another Masters, he’ll switch up the menu for the next champions dinner.

“I would love to have served some meat pies at the cocktail hour, but it couldn’t be arranged,” Scott said. “Next time, if I get another chance to do it, I’d love to serve some meat pies.”

‘Magical place’ for Mickelson

By MARK HERRMANN
Newsday

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Ten years later, Phil Mickelson can remember every little detail of having made the birdie putt on the 18th green and feeling the weight of the world slip off of his shoulders. “I jumped so high,” he said Tuesday, “I almost hit lightning.”

“I probably could have dunked a basketball if I saw ‘he,” he said, noting that many shots of that celebration showed a man whose leap barely got him off the ground. “Unfortunately, the photographers, they just didn’t time it right.”

He was in the mood to kid because he knows that winning the 2004 Masters was not his apex. He was only getting started. He has won four more major titles, including two more green jackets. These days, his spirits, if not his feet, soar when he comes through the gates of Augusta National.

“This is my favorite week,” he said. “I just love everything about this tournament. I love what it stands for. I just can’t believe I get



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Three-time champion Phil Mickelson said the Masters is his favorite week of the season.

to come back every year.”

People in the know believe there is enough fire in Mickelson, 43, for the lefty to contend, despite his rough year that has brought no victories and two withdrawals (one for a bad back and one for a strained oblique). “Something just happens when he comes here,” said Bruce Harmon, Mickelson’s swing coach. “His form coming in, you can throw that out.”

It still has Mickelson believing he can walk on air here. “It’s a magical place to begin with,” he said. “But the feeling that comes over me as I drive down Magnolia Lane is I don’t have to play perfect to play well here, because I can recover from mistakes here. You always have a shot.”

Father, son making history

By PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Kevin Stadler might be playing in the Masters for the first time, but he’s already showing his old man a thing or two.

Such as the best way to get to the Augusta National media center.

Craig Stadler went through the main door for a joint news conference with his son Monday, which is actually the long way to go. Kevin, meanwhile, slipped in through a back entrance, like most players who turn up for interviews at the building alongside the first fairway.

“How’d you come in?” Craig asked his son, looking a bit surprised when he turned to see Kevin standing behind him.

“Through the door,” Kevin replied dryly.

All kidding aside, the Stadlers are gearing up for a historic week at Augusta National. For the first time, a father and son will play in the same Masters — Craig, who says he’ll probably be teeing it up for the 38th and final time, and Kevin, making his debut in the opening major of the season.

“If and when I do know out, I can’t think of a better way to do

it than playing with your son in the same tournament,” the elder Stadler said. “It’s awesome.”

Sixty-year-old Craig won the Masters in 1982, beating Dan Pohl in a playoff, and has been back every year since. Kevin, now 34, used to come each year as a child to cheer on his dad. Now, he’s got a spot of his own after winning at Phoenix two months ago for his first PGA Tour victory.

“It’s going to be really, really fun to be on the inside of the ropes,” Kevin said. “I feel like I know this place pretty well but I’ve never, ever played it. So it’s going to be a blast.”

Kevin, whose parents are divorced, has conceded the relationship with his father isn’t as close as it once was. But if they’re paired together in the first two rounds, that would be just fine.

“I wouldn’t have any issues with that,” he said, smiling.

Besides, the younger Stadler is making a name for himself, after a lifetime of being compared with his father (right down to their matching physiques, with both listed as 5-foot-10, 250 pounds by the PGA Tour).

Kevin won four times on the second-tier Nationwide Tour and appears poised for a breakout at



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

Kevin Stadler, left, walks with his dad Craig Stadler. They will be the first father and son to play in the same Masters.

the highest level. He has made the cut in 10 of 11 events this year, is 14th in the FedEx Cup, and has already eclipsed his career high for earnings in a season with nearly \$1.7 million.

“He’s become just a wonderfully consistent player and has his own identity and everything else, which he should,” Craig said. “He’s worked hard for it and he’s earned it. Good for him, and I’m just going to kind of stand on the sidelines and watch, which is all I want to do, and just be supportive and root him on and hope more Phoenixes happen in the future. A lot more.”

MASTERS

Tree gone, 17th gets new view

By Doug Ferguson
The Associated Press

Most players walking up the hill toward the 17th fairway at Augusta National can't help but notice the famous Eisenhower Tree: A loblolly pine, far enough from the tee to be a nuisance, sprawling at 65 feet and getting taller by the year.

What got Stewart Cink's attention was another tree behind it.

"Between 10 or 15 years ago, I noticed they planted a rather substantial new tree, about 20 yards further away from the Eisenhower Tree," Cink said. "They were planning on the Eisenhower tree being lost at some point, coming to the end of its life."

This was the year it did. A miserable winter produced an ice storm so severe that the aging Eisenhower Tree was damaged beyond repair. As the Masters prepares to tee off in Augusta, the biggest change may be what's no longer there.

In an announcement that read like an obituary, club chairman Billy Payne said the tree could not be saved and was removed.

Worse yet, turns out that other tree Cink noticed years ago also fell victim to the ice storm and was taken down. The club has no immediate plans to replace it. The brother of former Masters champion Trevor Immelman posted a photo of the 17th without the tree, and the hole was not easily identified without the tree that gave it such definition.

The tree got its name from former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He hit the tree so often that during an Augusta National governors' meeting in 1956, Ike demanded that the tree be cut down immediately.

The tree managed to play a role in Tiger Woods' injuries. It was a shot he had to play from under the Eisenhower in 2011 that aggravated injuries to his left Achilles' tendon and caused him to miss two majors. Woods won't be back this year to see the change, but he spoke for plenty of players this spring.

"I can't say some of the guys are going to miss it," he said. "But we are going to see a difference."



JEFF SNER, CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT

In 2011, Tiger Woods aggravated his Achilles' tendon on this shot under the Eisenhower Tree at Augusta.

Open look



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Rory McIlroy examines his chip shot to the second green during a practice round Tuesday for the Masters in Augusta, Ga. With Tiger Woods missing the tournament, Las Vegas oddsmakers have made McIlroy and defending champion Adam Scott as betting favorites at 10-1.

With Woods absent, field looking most wide-open in 20 years

By Doug Ferguson
The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Georgia — One after another, some of the world's best players and favorites to win the Masters trudged up the hill on the opening hole to start their practice rounds.

Phil Mickelson. Rory McIlroy. Adam Scott. It was typical of any Tuesday at Augusta National, except for the scoreboard to the right of where they were walking. The board has the names of all 97 players in the field, with blank boxes to put their scores when the tournament begins. On the far right side of the board is a list of this year's noncompeting invitees.

Tommy Aaron. Doug Ford. Tiger Woods. "It's a weird feeling not having him here, isn't it?" said Phil Mickelson, a three-time Masters champion and the chief foil for Woods over the years. "He's been such a mainstay in professional golf and in the majors. It's awkward to not have him here. I hope he gets back soon." "As much as I want to win — and I know how great he is and tough to beat — it makes it special when he's in the field and you're able to win."

Woods is missing the Masters for the first time. His presence looms as large as some of the Georgia pines lining the fairways, though it will be forgotten when the opening shot is in the air Thursday, and a green jacket is awarded Sunday.

Even so, Woods brings a buzz to any tournament, even at Augusta National.

And this year, his absence has brought talk of the most wide-open Masters in nearly 20 years. Las Vegas oddsmakers have installed Scott and McIlroy as the betting favorites at 10-1, followed by Mickelson, Jason Day and Matt Kuchar at 12-1.

McIlroy had his own version of a betting sheet on the table where he sat during his interview — the tee times for the opening two rounds. Told that 97 players were in the field, the 24-year-old from Northern Ireland figured 70 had a chance to win.



CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP

Jason Day hits from a sand trap to the 17th green during practice Monday for the Masters. Day has completed two Masters, finishing second and third.

"There's a few past champions that play that might not be able to compete. There might be a few first-timers or a few amateurs that won't compete," McIlroy said. "But then you've got the rest. I'm just looking down the list here. Stewart Cink. Tim Clark. Ian Woosnam — no."

The room filled with laughter as McIlroy smiled and said, "Sorry, Woosie," referring to the 56-year-old former champion.

"You've got a lot of guys that can win, a lot of guys that have won PGA Tour events," McIlroy said. "OK, we're playing at Augusta. Because it's the Masters and because it's so big and so hyped up or whatever you want to say, you ought to remember that you're still playing against the same guys you play with week in and week out."

"I've beaten them before," he said. "They've beaten me before."

The PGA Tour is 21 tournaments into the season, and only one player (Zach Johnson)

won while he was in the top 10 in the world. McIlroy and Scott each had comfortable leads going into the final round and lost to players outside the top 100.

"I think in the past, certainly that's been easy to go to events and look at a guy who is the guy to beat," Scott said, not naming Woods because he hadn't need to. "I think that scope has kind of broadened now. There's a lot of guys with the talent and the form that aren't necessarily standing out above the others. But on their week, they're going to be tough to beat."

"I'd like to think my name is one of those guys," Scott said. "And I feel like I'm going to be one of the guys who has got a chance if I play well this week."

Scott had one more occasion to wear his green jacket Tuesday night as host of the Champions Dinner. Then, he sets out in a bid to join Jack Nicklaus, Nick Faldo and Woods as the only players to win back-to-back Masters.

For years, the Masters was seen as having the smallest group of contenders, and not just because it had the smallest field of the four majors. Augusta National is a puzzle that can take years to figure out. The roars that reverberate through the trees and from deep in Amen Corner on Sunday can be unsettling.

Scott won two years after he was a runner-up. Jason Day has completed two Masters and has yet to finish worse than third. As for Mickelson? There's no telling what he might accomplish next. Even though he has withdrawn from two tournaments with different injuries this year, Augusta invigorates the 43-year-old Mickelson.

All of them would love to be near the top of the leaderboard Sunday afternoon. By then, no one will be thinking about anything except a green jacket.

"No matter who is in contention or who is going to win this week, the Masters always provides a great finish," McIlroy said. "Regardless of who is there."

SPORTS

TOP DOGS



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Connecticut center Stefanie Dolson, holding trophy, and team members celebrate after beating Notre Dame 79-58 in the NCAA women's national title game on Tuesday at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tenn. It was the Huskies' ninth national title, and UConn became the second team in history to finish the season 40-0.

Huskies finish perfect run to title in rout over Notre Dame

Connecticut center Stefanie Dolson had 17 points, 16 rebounds and seven assists in the Huskies' win.

JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

BY DOUG FEINBERG
The Associated Press

GNASHVILLE, Tenn. — Connecticut and UConn reached the top of women's college basketball in unprecedented fashion. After winning a record ninth national championship — they stand alone.

The Huskies reached the pinnacle in style, routing Notre Dame in the first NCAA basketball championship game featuring undefeated teams.

Auriemma and his Huskies now have one more title than Pat Summitt and Tennessee for most all-time, and they did it in the Hall of Famer's backyard.

The Huskies had struggled recently against the Irish, but not Tuesday night, cruising to a 79-58 win.

"It means we've done something no one else has ever done," Auriemma said. "Flattered and grateful and all the things that come with this kind of accomplishment. ... I'm more proud of the legacy that exists and what Con-

necticut basketball is as opposed to the number of championships."

Breanna Stewart, who was The Associated Press Player of the Year, scored 21 points to lead the Huskies (40-0) while Stefanie Dolson added 17 points, 16 rebounds and seven assists.

Auriemma took out his senior center with a minute left and the game well in hand with the pair embracing in a long hug.

"We beat a great, great team," Auriemma said. "Notre Dame is a great team. For them to have the season they had and lose their starting center and to do what they did, I can't say enough about their players, coaching staff and it took everything we have. I knew if we played great we'd have a chance to win."

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Connecticut Huskies forward Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis signals No. 1 after hitting a three-pointer in the NCAA national championship game in Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday.

JOHN WOIKE, HARTFORD COURANT/MCT



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